

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Tenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, August 8, 2002/Sravana 17, 1924 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

REFERENCES BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Terrorist Attack on Amarnath Pilgrims

MR. SPEAKER: There is a reference to be made.

As the hon. Members are aware, on 6th August, 2002, nine Amarnath pilgrims were reported killed and about fifty injured when militants attacked and indiscriminately fired on a base camp in Nunwan near Pahalgam.

We deeply mourn the loss of lives of these pilgrims and condemn this barbaric act of terrorism. The House may place on record its deep sense of grief on this tragedy.

Members may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.01 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while.*

[English]

11.02 hrs.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM SURINAM

MR. SPEAKER: Friends, I have to welcome a Delegation.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency M. Ramdien Sardjoe, Speaker of the National Assembly and other Members of the Surinamese Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The Delegation arrived in India on 7th August, 2002. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the Parliament and the friendly people of Surinam.

[English]

11.03 hrs.

REFERENCES BY THE SPEAKER - Contd.

(ii) Congratulations to Indian Sports Persons on their Achievements at Commonwealth Games

MR. SPEAKER: As the hon. Members are aware, Indian sports-persons have done our country proud in the recently concluded Seventeenth Commonwealth Games at Manchester, United Kingdom by winning 32 Gold, 21 Silver and 19 Bronze medals.

The House may place on record its deep appreciation of the tremendous and unprecedented achievement of our enterprising sports-persons. I hope the whole House would join me in congratulating our sports-persons at their glorious success in bringing laurels to the country.

(iii) Homage to Mahatma Gandhi

MR. SPEAKER: Today is a red letter day in Indian history. Sixty years ago, on 8th August, 1942, the momentous 'Quit India Resolution' was passed.

Let us, on this day, pay homage to Mahatma Gandhiji.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now go to the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I have given notice for suspending the Question Hour.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 361. Dr. (Mrs.) Rajeswaramma Vukkala.

...(Interruptions)

DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA (NELLORE): Q. No. 361. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Suspension of Hunger and Walking Long Distance

*361. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scientists of the Pune University are conducting research at Defence Research and Development Organisation on temporary suspension of hunger and walking long distance without fatigue and also on Kautilya's notes concerning night vision based on Arthashashtra;

(b) if so, whether they have reached at some conclusions; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Defence Research and Development Organisation has funded a small academic project on 'Scientific Investigation of Warfare Practices in Kautilya's Arthashashtra' at the University of Pune.

(b) and (c) Some plants having potency in alleviating hunger and fatigue of animals have been identified. Research and experimental work are continuing. Night vision is not being investigated.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, the matter is very serious. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

11.05 hrs.

At this stage Shri Kantilal Bhuria and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 362. Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You must go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I called Shri Suresh Jadhav.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Q. No. 362. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister of Power may please respond.

...*(Interruptions)*

New Rules for State Electricity Regulatory Commissions

*362. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are in the process of making new rules for State Electricity Regulatory Commissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new rules are likely to be promulgated?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The State Governments frame the Rules in respect of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) under section 57 of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions (ERC) Act, 1998 or under the relevant provisions of their own Reform Acts as the case may be.

Section 13(e) of the ERC Act, 1998 envisages that the Central Government will formulate a tariff policy, with "the aid and advice" of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, which shall be:

- (i) fair to the consumers, and
- (ii) facilitate mobilization of adequate resources for power sector.

Ministry of Power had constituted a group under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Power) to prepare a concept paper on tariff policy. The report submitted by the group has been circulated to various stakeholders and experts for their views. A High Level Committee has also been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Power) to finalise the tariff policy after taking into account the comments and views of the various stakeholders and experts on the report of the Working Group. The exercise is scheduled to be completed in three months.

In the Electricity Bill 2001, which is under consideration of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy, there is a provision for the Central Government to prepare a National Electricity Policy (including tariff policy) in consultation with the State Governments and the Central Electricity Authority. It also provides that the Regulatory Commissions while determining the tariffs shall be guided by the National Electricity Policy (including the tariff policy).

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 363. Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Q. No. 363.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Improvement in Coaches~

*363. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared the proposal regarding improvement in train coaches to bring down the number of casualties during train accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difference in the manufacturing cost between the said coaches and the coaches being used at present and the additional financial burden to be borne by his Ministry on this account;

(d) the target set for manufacturing of the said special coaches during the current year;

(e) the trains that are likely to be provided with these coaches initially; and

(f) the time by which the said coaches are likely to be available for use on the tracks?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) to (c) In order to improve the crash worthiness of coaches and to reduce the risk of casualties in case of accidents, Railways have adopted the following three pronged approach:

1. Redesigning the coach interiors to minimize risk of injury to passengers during mishaps from sharp edges, corners or protrusions in the interiors or from falling objects and modifying the coach ends to eliminate the hazardous practice of roof travel. In order to achieve this, Railways have cleared a proposal to incorporate 51 modifications to coach interiors in new manufacture. These modifications are also to be carried out on existing coaches. The implementation is now in progress. There is no significant increase in manufacturing cost on account of these modifications and therefore, additional financial burden due to these is quite trivial.
2. Incorporating certain anti-climbing features to bring down, if not eliminate the chances of coaches climbing on each other and causing extensive casualties in case of accidents/collisions. For this purpose, it is proposed to introduce coaches with couplers, having anti-climbing features. The cost of these couplers is about Rs.7 lakh per coach and this is expected to come down with increased application.
3. Designing the coach structures in such a way, that the non passenger carrying area collapses in a controlled manner to absorb most of the impact energy during accidents or collisions, while keeping the passenger carrying area intact. Such

a coach structure saves precious passenger lives even in the worst mishaps. A project for development of such a design with latest technologies is being launched shortly. The financial repercussions of adopting crash worthy coach structure can be estimated only after the improved design is developed.

(d) to (f) Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai has already commenced manufacture of coaches with improved interiors and such coaches are already available in service. Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala have also implemented some modifications and the remaining are expected to be adopted shortly. No specific trains have been identified for providing such coaches as modified coaches with improved interiors are expected to become available gradually within next 3 to 4 years, thus covering most of the trains. Manufacture of the new German designed LHB type coaches with the new type of coupler has already commenced.

Coaches with crash worthy structure are expected to be developed within the next two to three years. Depending upon successful development, such coaches will be introduced in service progressively thereafter.

[English]

Equity Stake in CIS Countries

*364. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for energy highway from Russia and Central Asia through China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a keen interest among global companies, including India's Oil and Natural Gas Corporation-Videsh to get equity stake in the Commonwealth Independent States (CIS) countries; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Transportation of crude oil and natural gas to India by pipeline from Central Asia through China is a concept whose techno-economic feasibility has not been established so far.

(c) and (d) ONGC-Videsh Ltd. (OVL), a 100% subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), is active in securing equity oil abroad in various countries, including the countries comprising Confederation of Independent States like

Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In 2001, OVL obtained 20% stake in Sakhalin-I project of Russia with an estimated investment of about US \$ 1.74 billion (Rs. 8,500 crores approx.)

Note: 1\$ = Rs. 49.10 as on date.

Reforms in Power Sector

*365. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has submitted a six point agenda for reforms in the power sector;

(b) if so, the views of the Government thereon;

(c) whether one of the agenda submitted by the ACCII was for rationalizing of power tariff; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Union Government have taken several steps for rationalization of electricity tariff such as:

(i) The National Development Council (NDC) appointed a Committee on Power chaired by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. The report submitted in September, 1994 recommended inter alia, that,

- The State Governments should adopt minimum All India agricultural tariff as notified by Ministry of Power/Central Electricity Authority and also agree to provide subsidy to the SEBs in a transparent manner to compensate for the losses, if any.
- Subsidies to the agricultural consumers should be progressively phased out.

(ii) Chief Ministers' Conference held in 1996 adopted the Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power (CMNAPP) which envisages, inter alia that:

No sector shall pay less than 50% of the average cost of supply (cost of generation plus transmission and distribution) and that tariffs for agricultural sector will not be less than 50 paise/KWH to be brought to 50% of the average cost in not more than three years.

(iii) The Government of India have enacted the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 with a view to rationalizing tariff and providing for transparent policies regarding subsidies. The Regulatory Commissions are expected to fix tariff so as to progressively reflect the cost of supply, encourage efficiency, economy and competition. The Regulatory Commissions are also required to ensure that interests of consumers are safeguarded and at the same time consumers pay for the use of electricity in a reasonable manner based on the average cost of supply. The Act also provides that if a state Government requires the grant of any subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers in the tariff determined by the State Commission, the State Government shall pay the amount to compensate the person affected by the grant of subsidy.

(iv) The Conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers held on 26.2.2000 recognised that the cross subsidies cannot be sustained if the industrial tariff makes industry non-competitive.

(v) The Chief Ministers/Power Ministers Conference held on 3.3.2001 resolved inter-alia that,

- the quality of power supplied especially in rural areas needs to be improved through the Accelerated Power Development Programme and other programmes quickly.
- SERCs may be made functional in six months and tariff filings made. Tariff orders issued by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and SERCs need to be implemented fully unless stayed or set aside by court orders. It is necessary to move away from the regime of providing free power.
- The past decisions of Chief Ministers for minimum agricultural tariff of 50 paise may be implemented immediately.

(vi) In the Electricity Bill 2001, which has been introduced in the Parliament it is provided that tariff should progressively reflect the cost of supply and progressively reduce and eliminate cross subsidies. The Bill further provides that if the State Government grants any subsidy to a consumer or a class of consumers, it shall pay, in advance and in the manner as may be specified, the amount to compensate the person affected by grant of subsidy. It also provides that if the State Government does not pay the subsidy in accordance with the legal provisions, the State Governments direction regarding subsidy will not be operative.

(vii) It may be noted that the ultimate objective of the reform measures initiated by the Government of India is to ensure quality supply of electricity to consumers at affordable rates. Of late, it has been recognized that the real challenge of power sector reforms lies in distribution segment. Several steps have been taken towards distribution reforms. The strategy of reform seeks to address the core issues of governance and technical upgradation. As regards governance, thrust is mainly on

- energy audit at 11 KV substation/feeder;
- 100 per cent metering of 11 KV feeders/consumers;
- Identification and reduction/elimination of theft;
- profit centers/accountability at micro level.
- Decentralised Management of distribution through Panchayats/Users' Association/Franchises in rural areas.

On technical front, there is a scope for reduction of 10% technical loss reduction

- The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) has been launched for financing projects for system loss reduction. Under this programme incentives are also envisaged for States for investment in distribution sector as Central Grant subject to satisfactory progress in bridging the gap between cost and revenue per unit.
- A Task Force has been set up for developing synergy between Information Technology (IT) and the power sector with the objective of applying IT in improving the quality of service in the power sector and having an effective Management Information System (MIS) with the objective of making energy audit effective which would also permit effective action against theft of electricity.
- Several States have taken effective steps towards reduction/elimination of theft. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal have passed anti-theft laws. The Electricity Bill, 2001 which has been introduced in Parliament also has stringent provisions against theft of electricity.

Besides these measures, thrust has also been laid on energy conservation in order to improve efficiency of energy use. Regulatory Commissions have been given powers to

encourage competition and efficiency in the electricity industry. All these measures are expected to improve the performance of the power sector and in turn bring in the desired results in terms of reasonable tariff for consumers.

Election of Cantonment Boards

*366. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cantonment Boards where elections are contested on political party symbols and those where elections are held without political party symbols;

(b) whether Cantonment Act, 1924 specifies elections on political party symbols and whether any directions were issued in 1973 to avoid allotment of symbols reserved for political parties in Cantonment Board elections;

(c) whether any elections were held even after the directions of 1973;

(d) whether the Government are considering issuing strict instructions to Cantonment Boards for holding elections without political party symbols; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) In 12 Cantonment Boards, elections are contested on political party symbols while in the remaining except Badami Bagh where position is not verifiable due to records having been burnt during the last terrorist attack, elections are not contested on political party symbols.

(b) The Cantonment Act does not specify the elections on political party symbols. Directions were however issued in 1973 advising the Presidents, Cantonment Boards to brief the Returning Officers, not to allot, as far as possible, and in their discretion, party symbols to candidates contesting Cantonment Board elections.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, the existing instructions are considered sufficient.

Gap Between International and Domestic Prices of LPG and Kerosene

*367. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the gap

between International and domestic prices of LPG and Kerosene; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between domestic and International prices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The consumer prices of PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG were last increased on 1st March, 2002. There has been an increase in the international prices of these products since then.

(b) As per the Government decision on dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG will continue to be subsidized post APM and the subsidy on these products will be on specified flat rate basis from 1st April, 2002. The retail prices of these products will then vary as per the price changes in the international oil market.

Energisation of Pump Set by Rural Electrification

*368. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rural Electrification Corporation has any scheme to provide funds for water Pumpset Energisation all over the rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details of Pumpset Energisation System being implemented;

(c) whether Rural Electrification Corporation also financed the purchase of pumpsets during 2001-2002;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether REC has any plan to expand this scheme for the farming community; and

(f) if so, the details of additional funding proposed to help agriculture in rural areas by REC?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC) provides loan assistance to the State Electricity Boards/ State Power Utilities/State Governments for pumpset energization schemes. The schemes for pumpset Energisation are implemented by respective SEBs/State Power Utilities/ State Governments in accordance with their priorities and policies. Under pumpset Energisation schemes, the REC extends loan assistance for creating the required electrical infrastructure to provide electricity connections to individual pumpsets.

During the year 2001-02, a sum of Rs.185.86 crores as loan was drawn by the SEBs/State Power Utilities/State Governments from REC for pumpset energization and 1,39,703 pumpsets are reported to have been energized. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) REC does not finance purchase of pumpsets.

(e) and (f) REC supplements the resources of SEBs/State Power Utilities by providing loan assistance for eligible Rural Electrification projects including those for pumpset energization sponsored by them on normal commercial terms prescribed by the Corporation, as a financial institution. REC will continue to support/expand pumpset energization programme by providing loan assistance to them for eligible schemes sponsored by SEBs/State Power Utilities/State Governments in line with their requirements.

For 2002-03, REC expects to disburse Rs.360.00 crores, which will cover energization of 1.44 lakh pumpsets.

Statement

Loan drawn and Pumpsets reported Energized under REC Financed Scheme during 2001-2002.

Sl. No.	State	Loan drawn by Power Utilities (Rs. in lakh)	Pumpsets reported energized
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1596	9423
2.	Gujarat	3070	6385
3.	Haryana	320	1519
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	162	568
5.	Karnataka	811	29770
6.	Kerala	1159	10895
7.	Maharashtra	3838	29194
8.	Punjab	419	3500
9.	Rajasthan	5445	8249
10.	Tamil Nadu	1766	40200
Total		18586	139703

Foreign Orders to BHEL

*369. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN:

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided any incentives to the BHEL for having performed exceedingly well in getting orders from foreign countries during the last two years and in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with foreign orders won by BHEL and the total amount of work done during the last two years and till date;

(c) whether the Government are considering the expansion of BHEL;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the profit of BHEL is declining continuously; and

(f) if not, the details of profits and losses of this company during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (f) Government attaches high priority to increase export operations by BHEL. BHEL has been able to succeed in global competition vis-a-vis multinationals such as General Electrics, Alstom, Siemens, etc. and has bagged substantial orders in foreign countries - Oman, Iraq, Azerbaijan, China, Bangladesh to name a few. Government believes that BHEL, which is already an excellent Undertaking, should compete in the International Market on the basis of its own strength by focusing on productivity, quality and innovation. As such, separate incentive has not been given to the BHEL. However, the 'Navratna' status and consequent increased delegation of powers, and continuance of such a status, is an ongoing recognition of this PSU and an incentive for continued achievements.

BHEL has won total export orders worth Rs. 1515 crores during the past two years and Rs. 315.2 crore up to June this year. The Physical Export Turnover during the corresponding period stood at Rs. 1232 crore and Rs. 64 crore respectively.

The Government is keen on increasing the turnover and productivity of BHEL without resorting to any physical expansion of its manufacturing capacity. The strategy is to achieve optimum utilization of existing capacity and increase export turnover through increase in productivity and efficiency through R&D efforts. With a view to have a pro-active approach to export promotion, the Government has constituted a Task Force under the chairmanship of Secretary (HI&PE), with representatives of concerned Ministries, such as Ministries of External Affairs, Finance, Commerce and BHEL.

Despite global recession, BHEL has been successful in maintaining a fair level of operational profits. The Profit Before Tax for the years 1999-00, 2000-01 and 2001-02 were Rs. 865 Crore, Rs. 294# Crore and Rs. 672* Crore respectively. The Profit After Tax for the corresponding period were Rs. 599 Crore, Rs. 313# Crore and Rs. 474* Crore respectively

* for 2001-02, results are after statutory audit and subject to Govt. audit.

Decline in profit is partly due to impact of wage revision and Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS).

Special Package for North-Eastern Region

*370. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved the implementation of a special package of schemes for expansion of Doordarshan and AIR services in the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount

allocated in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the said purpose, location-wise;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be completed; and

(d) the funds provided to DD/AIR to create such facilities during the last three years and the amount actually spent, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Government has approved, in principle, the implementation of a special package for improvement of Doordarshan and AIR services in NE region and Island territories including Sikkim. Out of this, the specific schemes already approved by Expenditure Finance Committee for immediate implementation are given in enclosed statement-I. The complete package is expected to be implemented by the end of the Tenth Plan.

(d) The expenditure incurred on the Projects of AIR and Doordarshan, during the last 3 years is given in enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

The North East Scheme approved by the EFC

Sl.No.	Scheme Name	Cost (Cap. & RNR) (Rs. in Crores)
Doordarshan		
1.	Cable Headends in 160 villages (20 villages in each of NE states)	7.15
2.	Upgradation of 5 no. of 1KW HPTs to 10 KW HPTs (Shillong, Kohima, Imphal, Aizwal & Itanagar)	22.70
3.	Satellite Earth Station at Aizwal & Shillong	15.02
4.	Satellite videophone (16 nos.) at 8 Capital Centres of NE region (2 nos. at each centre)	1.65
Total		46.52
All India Radio		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh, 10 KW FM Tr. at Itanagar	6.10
2.	Nagaland, 10 KW FM Tr. at Kohima	6.10
3.	A&N Islands, 10 KW FM Tr. at Port Blair	6.60
	Upgradation of Captive Earth Stations at Guwahati, Shillong and Itanagar	6.00
Total		24.80

Statement

*Details of Expenditure Incurred on Air/Doordarshan Projects in
North East during the Last Three Years*

A. All India Radio

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Station	Exp. (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	1 KW MT TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Dharmanagar	49.47
2.	1 KW MT TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Ziro	5.12
3.	100 KW MT TR.	Guwahati	6.09
4.	1 KW MT TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Diphu	1.05
5.	2x10 KW MW TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Kokrajhar	3.14
6.	2x10 KW MW TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Tezpur	11.25
7.	20 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Gangtok	94.60
8.	2x3 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Churachandpur	63.64
9.	2x3 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Dhubri	10.79
10.	2x3 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Lungleh	7.97
11.	2x3 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Longtherai	13.84
12.	2x3 KW FM TR., STUDIO & S/Q	Mokokchung	0.28
13.	Community Radio Station	Saiha	18.29
14.	Community Radio Station	Mon	1.18
15.	Community Radio Station	Nongstoin	2.53
16.	Community Radio Station	Tuensang	2.22
17.	Community Radio Station	Williamnagar	1.58
18.	2x5 KW FM TR., STUDIO (CBS)	Guwahati	2.99
19.	Improvement of Facility	-	7.73
20.	Refurbishing of studios	Ex-Centre	0.28
21.	Stereo Channel	Aizwal	73.64
22.	Stereo Channel	Shillong	12.73
23.	Staff Training Institute (T) & (P)	-	21.93

1	2	3	4
24.	RSTI (P)	Shillong	136.88
25.	10 KW FM TR., STUDIO	Imphal	165.20
26.	100 KW MW TR.	Kohima	288.52
27.	20 KW MW TR.	Silchar	228.42
28.	20 KW MW TR.	Tura	221.05
29.	20 KW MW TR.	Aizwal	246.27
30.	2x5 KW FM TR., STUDIO	Agartala	181.42
31.	Radio Networking	-	51.74
32.	Security Measures	-	90.35
33.	Staff Quarters	-	120.74
34.	Running Cost (Revenue Plan)	-	426.11
35.	300 KW MW TR.	Imphal	699.79
36.	6 KW MW TR. & Stereo Fac.	Aizwal	55.85
37.	10 KW FM TR., STUDIO	Shillong	152.21
38.	Uplinking of Capitals	-	70.00
39.	Unforseen Replacement	-	8.60
40.	CBS	Siliguri	2.25
41.	Capital (Stabishment)	-	551.13
42.	Over Work 7 Misc. Schemes	Ex-Centres	108.53
43.	Additional Office Accommodation	Ex-Centres	3.50
Total			4320.90

Say Rs. 43.21 crores

B. Doordarshan

*Expenditure incurred on Doordarshan projects in
NE region during the last 3 years*

S.No.	Project	Expenditure (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Studio Gangtok	162.77
2.	HPT Churachandpur	53.83

1	2	3
3.	HPT Lunglei	46.29
4.	HPT Mokokchung	9.08
5.	HPT Tura (DD II)	35.08
6.	HPT Silchar (DD II)	198.65
7.	HPT Guwahati (DD II)	184.71
8.	HPT Agartala (DD II)	193.42

1	2	3
9.	HPT Itanagar (DD II)	151.23
10.	HPT Kohima (DD II)	152.28
11.	HPT Shillong (DD II)	151.43
12.	HPT Gangtok (DD II)	4.60
13.	HPT Aizwal (DD II)	138.15
14.	HPT Imphal (DD II)	137.30
15.	Replacement of HPTs Guwahati, Silchar & Agartala	90.52
16.	Low Power Transmitters at various locations	117.82
17.	Very Low Power Transmitters at various locations	104.88
18.	Staff quarters Kohima	126.05
19.	Staff quarters Guwahati	509.80
20.	Staff quarters Itanagar	141.36
21.	Staff quarters Tura	86.37
22.	Staff quarters Dibrugarh	117.72
23.	Studio related schemes (Guwahati, Shillong, Itanagar, Aizwal, Dibrugarh, Tura, Kohima, Imphal, Agartala & Silchar)	1271.51
24.	Satellite uplinks (Kohima, Shillong, Aizwal, Itanagar, Imphal & Agartala)	1150.41

1	2	3
25.	Establishment Expenditure	455.77
26.	Misc. Schemes	535.00
Total		6326.03 (Rs. 63.26 crores)

Damages to Railways

*371. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail bridges washed away or broken by the flood and rains in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total loss of lives and Government property damaged therein;

(c) whether the poor planning and workmanship is the reasons for the said damage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):
(a) and (b) Information regarding Railway Bridges is not maintained State-wise, however, it is maintained Railway-wise. There has been no wash away of railway bridges or loss of lives of railway persons due to floods and rains during the last three years. However, Railway-wise details of major damages to railway bridges along with cost due to floods and rains, for the last three years are as under:

Year	Railway	Damage details	Approximate cost of damage / reconstruction (in Lakh)
1	2	3	4
1999-2000	Northeast Frontier	The Lumding end abutment and the adjoining pier of Br. No. 331 (9x18.3 m) on Lumding-Furkating (BG) section was damaged.	746.00
2000-2001	South Central	Br. No. 194 (3x12.19 m) (Up & Dn) on Kazipet-Ballarshah section was damaged.	695.24
	Eastern	16 bridges were damaged in Krishnanagar-Lalgola section and portion of Sahebganj.	1479.00
2001-2002	South Central	Br. No. 415 (4x7.62 m) of Renigunta-Guntakal section was damaged.	242.01

1	2	3	4
	Northeast Frontier	Br. No. 339 (1x4.57 m) on New Bongaigaon-Jogighopa-Kamakhya (BG) section was damaged.	230.00
	South Eastern	Br. No. 7 (8x150 ft) on Jharsuguda - Sambalpur section was damaged.	1592.00
	Southern	Br. No. 55 (3x6.1 m) on Mettupalaiyam-Coonoor section was damaged.	99.60

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Railways take all precautionary measures to protect its bridges, track and other assets from floods and rains by means of advance patrolling, conducting periodic inspections and advance stocking of materials as monsoon reserves to meet any unforeseen emergency during natural calamities.

[Translation]

Allotment of Retail Outlets and Gas Agency

*372 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ex-servicemen and family members of those who have lost their lives in war are given retail outlets and gas agencies on priority basis;

(b) if so, the total number of applications received by his Ministry during the last three years;

(c) the number of applications received by the Government from the family members of the soldiers killed in Kargil war and others separately;

(d) whether all the families of those who lost their lives during Kargil war have been allotted the outlets/agency; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (e) 1. The Government have provided for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships/ SKO-LDO dealerships under discretionary quota on genuine compassionate grounds to the deserving persons in the following two categories:

(i) Dependants of Defence/ Paramilitary/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

(ii) Dependants of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

According to the guidelines, the number of discretionary allotments in a year shall not exceed 10% of the average Annual Marketing Plan or 75, whichever is less, of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products will not ordinarily exceed 5% of the average Annual Marketing Plan.

As on 31.7.2002, a total number of 1879 applications were received for allotment of dealerships/ distributorships under the discretionary quota. Out of these, 376 were incomplete/duplicate applications. No allotments have been made under this Scheme so far.

2. In addition to the above, under a Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships to the widows/next of kin of the Defence personnel killed in action in 'OP Vijay' (Kargil), allotments are made by the Government on the basis of recommendations received from the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence and after the feasibility of the locations is verified by the Oil Industry. Out of the total number of 454 applications received from the DGR in 438 cases allotments have been approved. In 4 cases, recommendation from Industry after field investigation is yet to be received and 12 cases have been found to be not viable.

[English]

Petronet Agreement for Supply of LNG

*373. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Petronet has signed an agreement for supply of LNG with various Gulf countries;

- (b) if so, the details of this agreement;
- (c) whether in some cases agreements have been signed for 25 years;
- (d) if so, whether Petronet is totally dependent on such imported LNG for its operations; and
- (e) the ports and their present status where such LNG will be off-loaded?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) An agreement for supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) was signed between Ras Gas of Qatar and Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) in July, 1999. The agreement is for supply of 7.5 million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMPA) of LNG.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In the first stage Dahej in Gujarat and Kochi in Kerala have been identified as ports for creation of LNG import and off-loading facilities. Till July, 2002 about 44% of the work of the Dahej project has been completed. The mechanical completion of the project is scheduled for December, 2003. In case of Kochi all pre-project activities have been completed.

Losses to SEBs

*374. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the commercial losses of SEBs have increased almost threefold in comparison to the last few years, as reported in the Statesman dated July 17, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether the working group on SEBs for the Tenth Five Year Plan has submitted its report to the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the plans formulated on the basis of recommendations of the working group to bring down losses of SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) According to the Annual Report of the Planning Commission on the working of SEBs the estimated commercial losses with subsidy of the SEBs in India has increased from Rs.2,725 crores in 1992-93 to Rs.24,837.22 crores in 2001-02 (Annual Plan).

The salient features of the Annual Report of the Planning Commission on the working of SEBs and Electricity Departments for the Year 2001-2002 are as follows:

- The gap between average cost of supply and average tariff has increased from a level of 50 p/kwh in 1996-97 to 110 p/kwh in 2001-02.
- Tariff charged to agricultural consumers is much below the level of 50 p/kwh.
- Subsidy payable by state government on account of energy sales to domestic consumers is likely to increase from level of Rs.4386 crores in 1996-97 to Rs.12238.5 crores in 2001-02.
- Subsidy payable on account of sales to agricultural consumers is estimated to increase from the level of Rs.15586 crores in 1996-97 to Rs.30462 crores in 2001-02.
- Share of domestic and agricultural consumers in total energy sale has been increasing while that of industry has been declining.

Government have drawn up a strategy in consultation with State Governments for revival of financial health of SEBs and gradual elimination of these losses. Important steps taken are as follows:

- (i) Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act has been enacted to enable State Governments to constitute State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) for rationalisation of electricity tariff and for promotion of efficiency, economy and competition. So far SERCs are functional in 15 States. SERCs of 12 States have already issued tariff orders.
- (ii) Conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers held in March, 2001 recognised that the real problem of management and challenge of reforms lies in the distribution sector and resolved, inter alia, that:
 - (a) Energy audit at all 11 KV feeders will be made effective within the next 6 months and accountability fixed at the local level.
 - (b) An effective Management Information System (MIS) for this purpose will be made operational.
 - (c) On the basis of the above, an effective programme will be launched for identifying and eliminating power thefts in the next 2 years.
 - (d) Full metering of all consumers will be completed

by December, 2001. Special efforts would be made to complete the programme.

- (e) Current operations in distribution would need to reach break even in two years and positive returns thereafter.
- (iii) The Government of India has been signing Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with States reflecting the joint commitment of the Centre and the States to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. These require the States to set up SERCs, undertake energy audit through full metering, reduce transmission and distribution losses and attain commercial viability. In reciprocation to the efforts of the States to achieve agreed milestones, the Central Government has committed assistance including allocation of additional power from unallocated share from Central Generating Stations, funds under specific programmes/schemes etc. The MOUs are now being flashed out into Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) with clearer and more specific milestones as the reform programme in the States is acquiring concrete shape. 22 States have been covered by this exercise till now.
- (iv) The Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) is designed to finance specific projects in identified distribution circles for a quick turn around and creation of centres of excellence. Initially 63 circles have been taken up for development as centres of excellence on the basis of well designed DPRs. The programme is being extended to cover concentrated loads and towns with population of over 1 lakh where work on preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) has been initiated. The base line data of DPRs is crucial for evaluating the results of the programme which is aimed at improving quality of supply as well as controlling theft and improving the financial health of the sector. This programme also includes an incentive scheme aiming at actual cash loss reduction by SEBs/Utilities. Under this scheme there is provision for grants by the Ministry of Power to SEBs/Utilities for actual cash loss reduction.
- (v) The Government of India (GOI) had set up an Expert Group under Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia to suggest, inter alia, the one time settlement of the dues owed by State Electricity Boards (SEBs) to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs). Recommendations made by the Expert Group under Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia have been

accepted. The scheme aims at making loss making power utilities bankable and provides that 60% of the interest/surcharge on the delayed payments as on 30.9.2001 would be waived off and the rest of the dues would be securitised through tax-free bonds issued by the respective State Governments. There would also be incentives to the States for timely payment of current dues. Default in making current payments shall attract, inter alia, suspension of funds under APDRP. Further, in order to initiate steps towards reform of the sector, the SEBs shall accept reform based performance milestones such as setting up of SERCs, metering of distribution feeders, improvements in revenue realisation specified in the MOUs to be signed with the Ministry of Power.

With the Securitisation of past dues by the State Government and the creation of the discipline of full payment for current supplies, the raising of the requisite resources from the market for the ambitious capacity addition programme of the CPSUs would become feasible. The State Governments can use this to give their power utilities clean balance sheets to enable them to fully access markets for funds to finance their investment programmes.

- (vi) The forward-looking, reform-oriented Electricity Bill 2001 has been introduced in Parliament. The Bill, inter-alia, contains stringent provisions for penalty in case of power thefts. The Bill also includes provision for reduction of cross subsidies, and for payment of subsidies upfront by the State Governments to the State Power Utilities where such subsidies are considered unavoidable.

It is expected that the action plan briefly outlined in the preceding paragraphs would lead to improvement in the operational and financial performance of the State Electricity Boards/Utilities with restoration of commercial viability in a few years.

[Translation]

Investment of Foreign Companies in Power Sector

*375. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of domestic/foreign companies which have applied for investment in power sector till date;
- (b) the number of such companies given approval for investment;

(c) whether offer of investment of some companies has been rejected;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the private investment in power sector?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) So far, proposals for investment in a total of 82 private sector power project schemes have been received by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance (TEC). These include both domestic as well as foreign companies.

(b) Till date, a total of 58 private power project schemes have been accorded TEC by CEA.

(c) None of the schemes for TEC have been rejected by CEA. However, 21 private sector schemes have been returned to the concerned project authorities for want of essential inputs/clearances.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given for (c) above.

(e) The policy to encourage private sector investments into the power sector was announced in 1991 and has been reviewed from time to time to streamline the process of project development. One of the main problems perceived in the development of the private sector power projects is the poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards and lack of adequate security for investments made, in the form of escrow cover and Letters of Credit etc. Inability of the State Electricity Boards to provide adequate payment security cover to the private sector power projects, (which is a requirement of the project developers and more particularly the financial institutions), has been one of the main reasons due to which the majority of private sector power projects could not achieve financial closures in spite of progressing well on other fronts.

Government has initiated the process of reforms with a view to improving the financial condition of the various power utilities in order to make the commercially viable. The States have accepted the need for power sector reforms. A consensus was reached in the Conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers held in March, 2001 on the need to depoliticise power sector reforms and speed up their implementation and that the real challenge of reforms lay in the distribution sector. It was resolved in the conference that State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) would be made functional

and tariff petition filed and subsidy would be given, if required, only to the extent of State Government's capacity to pay the subsidies explicitly through budget. The Government of India has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with twenty-two States. These reflect the joint commitment of the Centre and the States to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. The State Government's commitment in these MOUs include setting up of the SERCs, 100% metering of the 11 KV feeders, effective energy audit, identification and elimination of power theft and attainment of commercial viability in distribution. Government of India has committed its support through additional allocation of power from Central Generating Stations and financial assistance for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution as well as for renovation and modernization of power plants. Government have launched the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) to assist the States in improving their sub-transmission/distribution systems in identified circles and to provide incentive, grants linked to the bridging of the gap between cost of supply and average revenue per unit. Twelve SERCs have passed tariff orders, which reflect a trend towards tariff rationalization. It is expected that with effective implementation of reform, commercial viability would be achieved and the confidence of investors in the power sector will improve, paving the way for more private sector participation.

[English]

Employment Generating Schemes

*376. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have partially privatised the responsibility of sanitation and handed it over to NGOs at different railway stations, residential colonies, rail yards, godowns, etc.;

(b) whether the Railways are planning to launch an employment generating schemes as part of the privatisation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Railways propose to give the job of issuing tickets to unemployed educated youths residing in and around small stations and flag stations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Railways are not planning to launch any employment generating scheme as a part of privatisation. However, Railways have been traditionally involving individual and

private sector in many activities such as catering, halt station, license porters, 'Pay & Use' toilets, removal of garbage. Certain activities, like operation of the 'Pay & Use' toilets at important stations through NGOs/Co-operative Agencies, etc. and removal of garbage from some of the Railway colonies/stations through private agencies are carried out.

(d) and (e) At halt stations and some flag stations, agents are appointed for issuing of tickets on commission basis after calling for applications. Unemployed youth fulfilling the prescribed conditions can also apply.

[Translation]

Gramsat Scheme in Tribal Areas

*377. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount spent on Gramsat Scheme especially in the tribal districts during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the programmes telecast under the scheme;

(c) whether the Government propose to include the tribal people in the said programmes with a view to promote tribal culture;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (e) Gramsat Scheme is not operated by Prasar Bharati. Instead, the Department of Space has initiated Gramsat Pilot Projects in Madhya Pradesh (M.P.), Gujarat, Karnataka and Orissa. As informed by the Department of Space, the first pilot project in M.P. covered the tribal district of Jhabua which was subsequently extended to cover tribal districts of Dhar and Badwani. The expenditure incurred by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in these three districts is as under:

Year	Expenditure
1996-1998	7.00 crores
1998-2001	8.00 crores

The Gramsat network are used for organizing interactive training programmes in all the above mentioned States and for interactive training and broadcasting programmes in Madhya Pradesh.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen

*378. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen in the country, State and district-wise;

(b) the number of ex-servicemen rehabilitated, State-wise;

(c) the funds provided for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the funds to rehabilitate the ex-servicemen; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) Data concerning ex-Servicemen population in the country, State and district-wise, is given in enclosed statement.

2. Rehabilitation of ex-Servicemen is a continuous process and Government is having number of schemes for this purpose. These include schemes of reservation in Government jobs, training programmes to improve their employability after retirement or release from Service, grant of loan facilities for setting up of self-employment ventures, employment opportunities through ex-Servicemen Security Agencies, ex-Servicemen Coal Transportation Companies, etc. State Governments are also having schemes for their rehabilitation. Besides, number of ex-Servicemen are re-employed in private sector. The data concerning ex-Servicemen rehabilitated by various schemes is not centrally monitored.

3. There is no specific budget allocation for the rehabilitation of ex-Servicemen.

Statement

Census of Ex-Servicemen Registered Rajya Sainik Board-wise

Population as on March 2002

Ser.	RSB/ZSB	No. of Ex-Servicemen
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	62204

1	2	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	267
3.	Assam	20599
4.	Bihar	53342
5.	Chhattisgarh	3570
6.	Goa	1747
7.	Gujarat	15502
8.	Himachal Pradesh	83260
9.	Haryana	182114
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	55665
11.	Jharkhand	14778
12.	Karnataka	53386
13.	Kerala	134522
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29434
15.	Maharashtra	159981
16.	Manipur	4072
17.	Meghalaya	1872
18.	Mizoram	4184
19.	Nagaland	2152
20.	Orissa	19314
21.	Punjab	216747
22.	Rajasthan	113144
23.	Sikkim	1139
24.	Tamil Nadu	109019
25.	Tripura	1808
26.	Uttar Pradesh	199204
27.	Uttaranchal	98649
28.	West Bengal	40590
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	480

1	2	3
30.	Chandigarh	6500
31.	Delhi	31706
32.	Pondicherry	1297
Total		1722248
S.No.	RSB/ZSB	No. of Ex-Servicemen
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Adilabad	234
2.	Anantpur	1579
3.	Chittoor	5430
4.	Cuddapah	2085
5.	Guntur	6176
6.	Hyderabad	7615
7.	Kakinada/East Godavari	2662
8.	Karimnagar	618
9.	Kurnool	1858
10.	Khammam	535
11.	Mahboobnagar	761
12.	Nalgonda	708
13.	Nellore	1424
14.	Nizamabad	317
15.	Ongole/Prakasam	4846
16.	Ranga Reddy	7838
17.	Sangareddy/Medak	678
18.	Srikakulam	1700
19.	Vijaywada/Krishna	3173
20.	Vishakhapatnam	7610
21.	Vizianagaram	854

1	2	3
22.	Warangal	666
23.	West Godavari/Eluru	2837
	Total	62204

2. Arunachal Pradesh

1.	Arunachal Pradesh	267
	Total	267

3. Assam

1.	Cachar	5243
2.	Dhubri	1666
3.	Dibrugarh	1124
4.	Jorhat	3178
5.	Kamrup	3083
6.	Karbi Anglong	292
7.	Kokrajhar	1990
8.	Lakhimpur	396
9.	Nagaon	2123
10.	Sonitpur	1504
	Total	20599

4. Bihar

1.	Bhagalpur	2484
2.	Bhojpur	19457
3.	Chhapra	8307
4.	Darbhanga	3486
5.	Gaya	2643
6.	Monghyr	2047
7.	Motihari	2407
8.	Muzaffarpur	6937
9.	Patna	5574
	Total	53342

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	
1.	Bilaspur	931
2.	Durg	788
3.	Raipur	774
4.	Raigarh	988
5.	Rajnandgaon	89
	Total	3570

6. Goa

1.	Goa	1747
	Total	1747

7. Gujarat

1.	Ahmedabad	6088
2.	Baroda	3721
3.	Jamnagar	2292
4.	Rajkot	2018
5.	Surat	1383
	Total	15502

8. Himachal Pradesh

1.	Bilaspur	5420
2.	Chamba	2510
3.	Hamirpur	15570
4.	Kangra/Dharamshala	35226
5.	Kinnaur	259
6.	Kullu	1038
7.	Lahoul & Spiti	158
8.	Mandi	8656
9.	Simla	2340
10.	Sirmaur	1637

1	2	3
11.	Solan	2401
12.	Una	8045
Total		83260

9. Haryana

1.	Ambala	8856
2.	Bhiwani	26607
3.	Faridabad	6667
4.	Fatehabad	2526
5.	Gurgaon	12845
6.	Hissar	9541
7.	Jhajjar	18471
8.	Jind	7670
9.	Kaithal	2956
10.	Karnal	4368
11.	Kurukshetra	4070
12.	Narnaul	14330
13.	Panchkula	4861
14.	Panipat	5353
15.	Rewari	17992
16.	Rohtak	14657
17.	Sirsa	1939
18.	Sonepat	12759
19.	Yamuna Nagar	5646

Total	182114
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10. Jammu & Kashmir

1.	Baramulla	2490
2.	Doda	2100
3.	Jammu	22461

1	2	3
4.	Kathua	6060
5.	Leh	2688
6.	Poonch	1236
7.	Rajouri	4391
8.	Samba	6495
9.	Srinagar	2877
10.	Udhampur	4867
Total		55665

11. Jharkhand

1.	Chalbasa	3098
2.	Dumka	1395
3.	Hazaribagh	567
4.	Ranchi	9718
Total		14778

12. Karnataka

1.	Bangalore Urban	23359
2.	Davangere	910
3.	Belgaum	10166
4.	Bijapur	2640
5.	Dharwad	2786
6.	Gulbarga	1824
7.	Karwar	1459
8.	Kodagu/Medikeri	4200
9.	Mangalore	2627
10.	Mysore	2102
11.	Shimoga	1313
Total		53386

1	2	3
13. Kerala		
1.	Alapuzha/Allepey	18795
2.	Idukki	1422
3.	Kannur	11305
4.	Kasaragod	1148
5.	Kochi/Ernakulam	11229
6.	Kollam/Quilon	12827
7.	Kottayam	8714
8.	Kozhikode	8731
9.	Malapuram	5997
10.	Palakkad/Palghat	9777
11.	Pathanamthitta	13765
12.	Thrissur	10836
13.	Thiruvananthapuram	18706
14.	Wayanad	1270
Total		134522

14. Madhya Pradesh

1.	Betul	339
2.	Bhind	4487
3.	Bhopal	1635
4.	Chatarpur	219
5.	Chhindwara	320
6.	Damoh	189
7.	Datia	103
8.	Dewas	361
9.	Dhar	327
10.	Gwalior	2990
11.	Hoshangabad	603

1	2	3
12.	Indore	2586
13.	Jabalpur	3941
14.	Mandsaur	193
15.	Morena	2411
16.	Narsingpur	368
17.	Panna	149
18.	Ratlam	192
19.	Rewa	2986
20.	Sagar	716
21.	Satna	1471
22.	Seoni	210
23.	Shahdol	316
24.	Shivpuri	464
25.	Sidhi	979
26.	Tikamgarh	157
27.	Ujjain	742
Total		29434

15. Maharashtra

1.	Ahmednagar	6395
2.	Akola	1526
3.	Amravati	3012
4.	Aurangabad	2872
5.	Beed	2410
6.	Bhandara*	530
7.	Buldhana	3769
8.	Chandrapur	1082
9.	Dhule	1034
10.	Gadghiroli*	88

1	2	3
11.	Gondia	383
12.	Hingoli	369
13.	Jaalgoan	2437
14.	Jalna	828
15.	Kolhapur	10383
16.	Latur	2436
17.	Mumbai City	14054
18.	Mumbai Upnagar	9429
19.	Nandurbar	153
20.	Nagpur	5254
21.	Nanded	639
22.	Nasik	4837
23.	Osmanabad	2895
24.	Parbhani	587
25.	Pune	19750
26.	Raigadh (Alibag)	2971
27.	Ratnagiri	4647
28.	Sangli	15363
29.	Satara	19181
30.	Sholapur	5915
31.	Sindhudurg	3294
32.	Thane	8072
33.	Wardha	1653
34.	Washim	538
35.	Yeotmal	1195
Total		159981

* Note: There are no Zila Sainik Boards in these districts. The work is being looked after by the respective collectorates.

1	2	3
16.	Manipur	
1.	Churachandpur	1313
2.	Imphal	2759
Total		4072
17.	Meghalaya	
1.	Meghalaya	1872
Total		1872
18.	Mizoram	
1.	Aizwal	3343
2.	Lunglei	841
Total		4184
19.	Nagaland	
1.	Dhimapur	39
2.	Kohima	653
3.	Mokokchung	606
4.	Wokha	595
5.	Zunheboto	259
Total		2152
20.	Orissa	
1.	Balasore	1728
2.	Cuttack	7338
3.	Dhenkanal	3125
4.	Ganjam/Berhampur	4673
5.	Kalahandi	1056
6.	Sambalpur	1394
Total		19314
21.	Punjab	
1.	Amritsar	26425

	2	3
2. Bhathinda		6703
3. Faridkot		6856
4. Fatehgarh		4876
5. Ferozpur		4121
6. Gurdaspur		25987
7. Hoshiarpur		35506
8. Jalandhar		18745
9. Kapurthala		7239
10. Ludhiana		28307
11. Mansa		3048
12. Moga		8462
13. Mukatsar		4568
14. Patiala		9634
15. Ropar		15485
16. Sangrur		10785
Total		216747

22. Rajasthan

1. Ajmer	7803
2. Alwar	12755
3. Badmer	1149
4. Bharatpur	4717
5. Bikaner	2801
6. Churu	5282
7. Jaipur	6579
8. Jaisalmer	1389
9. Jhunjhunu	22688
10. Jodhpur	12930
11. Kota	3863

1	2	3
12. Nagaur		10448
13. Pali		2128
14. Sawaimadhopur		3351
15. Sikar		8650
16. Sriganganagar		2698
17. Udaipur		3915
Total		113144

23. Sikkim

1. Gangtok (E/N)	645
2. Gyalsi/Geyzing (W)	230
3. Namchi (S)	264
Total	1139

24. Tamil Nadu

1. Chennai	10083
2. Coimbatore	4307
3. Cuddalore	2371
4. Dharmapuri	6340
5. Dindigul	2963
6. Erode	1592
7. Kancheepuram	4558
8. Kanyakumari	4213
9. Madurai	5724
10. Nagapattinam	2909
11. Nilgiris	1726
12. Pudukottai	781
13. Ramanathapuram	1249
14. Salem	4327
15. Sivagangai	1765

1	2	3
16.	Thanjavur	3074
17.	Theni	2967
18.	Tiruchirappalli	6233
19.	Tirunelveli	4686
20.	Tiruvannamalai	5892
21.	Tiruvallur	5149
22.	Tuticorin	3672
23.	Vellore	14772
24.	Villupuram	2882
25.	Virudhunagar	4784
Total		109019
25. Tripura		
1.	Tripura	1808
Total		1808
26. Uttar Pradesh		
1.	Agra	6891
2.	Aligarh	4080
3.	Allahabad	4288
4.	Ambedkar Nagar	1026
5.	Azamgarh	2485
6.	Badaun	1827
7.	Bahraich	304
8.	Ballia	6582
9.	Balrampur	74
10.	Banda	1110
11.	Barabanki	1154
12.	Bareilly	5071
13.	Basti	1392

1	2	3
14.	Billnore	1317
15.	Buland Share	10482
16.	Chandauli	285
17.	Chitrakut	281
18.	Deoriah	4154
19.	Etah	5296
20.	Etawah	6366
21.	Faizabad	3377
22.	Fatehgarh	6972
23.	Fatehpur	2748
24.	Ferozabad	2756
25.	Gautam Budh Nagar	1725
26.	Ghazipur	18000
27.	Ghaziabad	8072
28.	Gonda	1585
29.	Gorakhpur	2575
30.	Hamirpur	781
31.	Hardoi	2620
32.	Hathras	4444
33.	Jalaun	2496
34.	Jaunpur	1441
35.	Jhansi	1363
36.	Jyotiba Phule Nagar	503
37.	Kanpur City	5488
38.	Kanpur Dehat	2510
39.	Kaushambi	96
40.	Kushinagar	587
41.	Khiri	1220

1	2	3
42.	Lucknow	8498
43.	Maharajganj	473
44.	Mahoba	127
45.	Mainpuri	6641
46.	Mathura	4649
47.	Mau	2060
48.	Meerut	10459
49.	Mirzapur	660
50.	Moradabad	1379
51.	Muzaffarnagar	3653
52.	Pilibhit	965
53.	Pratapgarh	3663
54.	Raebareilly	2705
55.	Rampur	1022
56.	Sant Ravidas Nagar	148
57.	Sharanpur	2081
58.	Shahjahanpur	1884
59.	Shrawasti	229
60.	Siddharthnagar	381
61.	Sitapur	736
62.	Sonabhadra	241
63.	Sultanpur	5092
64.	Unnao	1834
65.	Varanasi	3800
Total		199204

27. Uttaranchal

1.	Almora	15288
2.	Bageswar	0

1	2	3
3.	Chamoli	11470
4.	Champawat	0
5.	Dehradun	20543
6.	Haridwar	2333
7.	Lansdown	11763
8.	Nainital	9069
9.	Pauri	5411
10.	Pithoragarh	17634
11.	Rudraprayag	0
12.	Tehri	4564
13.	Udham Singh Nagar	25
14.	Uttarkashi	549
Total		98649

28. West Bengal

1.	Behala/24 Parganas	7220
2.	Burdwan	4178
3.	Calcutta	4155
4.	Darjeeling	8173
5.	Howrah	3320
6.	Jalpaiguri	2148
7.	Krishnanagar/Nadia	5457
8.	Midnapur	4314
9.	Dakshin Dinajpur	1625
Total		40590

29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	480
Total		480

1	2	3
30 Chandigarh		
1. Chandigarh		6500
Total		6500
31. Delhi		
1. Delhi		31706
Total		31706
32. Pondicherry		
1. Pondicherry		1297
Total		1297

[English]

Ticketless Travelling

*379. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss suffered due to ticketless travelling by railways during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to stop ticketless travelling recently;

(c) whether due to open entry and exit points at railway stations, proper checking of tickets do not take place;

(d) If so, whether the Government have formed any plan for railway stations to have restricted entry/exit points at each railway station; and

(e) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b) The loss due to ticketless travel is not quantifiable. However, regular and surprise checks are conducted frequently to check ticketless/irregular travel in association with Railway Magistrates and Police. In addition, Zonal

Railways also conduct various special types of checks on specific dates and periods at various places and sections prone to ticketless travel. As a result of these sustained efforts, the number of persons apprehended travelling without ticket/with improper ticket has gone up from 130.32 lakhs in 2000-2001 to 142.28 lakhs in 2001-2002. The amount realised during the year 2001-2002 was Rs. 175.72 crores as against Rs. 158.35 crores in 2000-2001 registering an increase of 11.0%.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. At times, some persons manage to enter/leave the platforms due to the open nature of railway stations and due to limited manpower. To curb such unauthorised entries, instructions exist for manning of various Entry/Exit gates and these are reiterated from time to time. In addition to barricading of unauthorised entry/exit points, regular drives are also conducted in association with the police to check the entry of movement of unauthorised persons and anti-social elements at all major stations.

[Translation]

Foreign Investment in Hydro Electricity Projects

*380. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign investments have been received for Hydro-electricity projects in the country;

(b) If so, the details in this regard;

(c) the names of such Hydro-electricity projects operating at present, State-wise;

(d) the amount spent thereon; and

(e) the details of power production from these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Foreign assistance is being received for the following hydro-electric projects which are under construction (as on 31.03.2002) in the country:

Sl.No.	Project Name	Capacity (MW)	Funding Agency	Loan Amount (DC in Million)	Utilization (DC in Million)	Commissioning Schedule
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Nathpa Jhakri HEP* (NJPC)	1500	IBRD (USD)	485.00	439.564	Unit I - December, 2003
2.	Dhauliganga HEP (NHPC)	280	JBIC (JPY)	21981.000	12800.262	March, 2005

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Turial HEP (NEEPCO)	60	JBIC (JPY)	11695.000	662.714	June, 2006
4.	Srisaillam Left Bank HEP (Andhra Pradesh)	900	JBIC (JPY)	63059.510	61267.500	October, 2003
5.	R&M Umiam HEP (Meghalaya)	-	JBIC (JPY)	1700.00	1369.296	June, 2004
6.	Ghatghar Pumped Storage Project. (Maharashtra)	250	JBIC (JPY)	11414.000	7249.098	September, 2004
7.	Purulia Pumped Storage Project. (West Bengal)	900	JBIC (JPY)	20520.000	2984.862	December, 2006
8.	Lower Borpani* (Assam)	100	JBIC (JPY)	1490.000	1490.000	March, 2004
9.	Dulhasti HEP* (NHPC)	390	France (FF)	1121.846	1121.846	December, 2003
10.	Tehri HEP** (THDC)	1000	USSR (USD)	172.152	70.070	Unit I- March, 2003
11.	Chamera-II (NHPC)	300	Canada (CD)	175.00	70.360	May, 2004

DC: Donor Currency

* Loan closed but project still going on.

** Though the power plant equipment was Russian, the supplier's credit was in USD.

Note: In addition to the above, the World Bank had started assisting the Sardar Sarovar and Indra Sarovar projects of the Narmada basin but had later withdrawn at the request of Government of India.

(c) to (e) The following hydro-electric projects, set up with external assistance are in operation:

Externally aided Hydro Power Projects under operation (as on 31.03.2002)

Sl.No.	Project Name	Capacity (MW)	Funding Agency	Loan Amt. (DC in Million)	Utilization (DC in Million)	Year of Commissioning	Electricity Generated during Apr'01 to March' 02 (MU)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Upper Indravati (Orissa)	300.00	IBRD (USD)	0.390	0.390		
			IDA (SDR)	156.000	156.000	1991	2968
			JBIC (JPY)	3600.000	3600.000		
2.	Second Koyna Power Project (Maharashtra)	1420.00	IDA (USD)	21.100	21.100	1967	2976

[illegible]

DC: Donor Currency.

Compensation Paid to Dependents

3683. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 11000 volts cable was fallen on Ramnavami procession three years ago which caused killing of 35 persons in Daltonganj, Jharkhand;

(b) If so, whether compensations to the next kin of the deceased was paid by the Government of Bihar;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the team sent by his Ministry has submitted its report to the Government;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. According to Bihar Government twenty-eight persons died and four were injured in the accident that took place in the late night of 12.4.2000.

(b) and (c) Bihar Government has sanctioned ex-gratia of Rs.1.0 lakhs to the next of kin of the persons died in the accident and Rs.20,000 to persons injured.

(d) to (f) A team of CEA officers was deputed for investigation. The team found that the unfortunate human tragedy from the electrical accident occurred due to fiddling of live electric wires by some elements in the religious procession, having scant regard for public property or safety. The improper maintenance of the feeding line particularly in respect of the protective devices and auxiliary control supply aggravated the situation. The Government of Bihar has informed that on the basis of the recommendation of this team corrective steps have been taken to prevent re-occurrence of such mishappenings in future.

[English]

Increase in Retirement Age of Judges

3684. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase

the retirement age of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts;

(b) if so, whether this matter was considered by the Committee to review the Constitution;

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) whether the retirement age of Judges in some of the countries is higher than the civil servants; and

(e) If so, the details of the retirement age of Judges in comparison to the civil servants in some of the democratic countries?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) to (c) References have been received with regard to the increase in the retirement age of the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts. The Chief Justices Conference held in December 1999, resolved that the age of retirement of the Judges of High Courts should be raised from 62 years to 65 years with a corresponding increase in the age of retirement of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.

The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) has recommended that the retirement age of the Judges of the High Court should be increased to 65 years and that of the Judges of the Supreme Court should be increased to 68 years.

So far, no decision has been taken by the Government in this regard.

(d) and (e) In India at present the retirement age of the Supreme Court Judges is 65 years and that of the High Court Judges is 62 years while the retirement age of the civil servants in India is 60 years. As per the available information, in England the Circuit Judges retire at the age of 70 years and the retirement age for civil servants is 60 to 65 years, whereas in Morocco, Magistrates retire at the age of 66 years and civil servants retire at 60 years.

[Translation]

Disposal of Civil Cases

3685. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made for disposal of civil cases within the period of one year with the implementation of Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that amendments made in Civil Procedure Code may not be against the principle of justice; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for making arrangements that poor people may also be benefited by E-Courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Act 2002, inter-alia, contains various provisions which fix time frame at various stages of a suit. These provisions will help in expeditious disposal of civil cases.

(c) The measures/provisions under the amended Civil Procedure Code are not against the principle of justice.

(d) E-Courts use information technology in court management and adopt e-mail based processes & communications. These are comparatively less expensive & more transparent. They help the poor by reducing the cost of processes & communication and by expediting disposal of cases.

[English]

Recommendations of PCI on Press Reports

3686. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recommendations made by Press Council against the motivated press reports during the last three years;

(b) the number of remedial measures taken by the respective newspapers;

(c) whether the Government propose to strengthen the hands of the Press Council; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Press Council of India upheld 352 complaints, out of the total number of 2452 complaints filed against the Press for motivated reports and passed strictures/gave directions to the erring newspapers during the period 1st April 1998 to 31st March, 2001.

(b) to (d) The Press Council has been established for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the Press and

maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies. The Press Council Act envisages that this will be fulfilled through such measures as building a code of conduct and encouraging a sense of responsibility and public service among journalists. Thus its role is clearly more that of a body which can induce self-regulation in the press rather than that of a court with powers to ensure compliance of its directions.

Inauguration of Seminar on Power

3687. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Minister has inaugurated a seminar on power dated July 8, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main object of the seminar; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made to make available power at reasonable rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) A National Conference on Capacity Addition for the Tenth and Eleventh Plans was held on the 8th and 9th of July, 2002 at New Delhi. The Conference was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Power and was attended by the State Power Secretaries and Chairmen of the SEBs. During the Conference, the Capacity addition target of 41,000 MW was reviewed and each identified project for the Tenth Plan was closely scrutinized.

In order to make power available at reasonable rates, it is necessary to moderate the increase in cost of power generating equipment and fuel costs for thermal generation. In addition, it is imperative to reduce transmission and distribution losses and identify and control theft through effective energy audit. The Government lays stress on benchmarking and standardization of equipment. An interactive website is also in operation where there is a separate icon on bidding and tendering. This has led to transparency which helps in reduction in project costs.

In addition to the above, the Government has launched the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for which there is a budget of Rs.3500 crore for this year. The States are provided assistance under this scheme to improve their sub-transmission and distribution system which would lower transmission losses and consequently, help in arresting the rate of growth of tariffs. Besides, the power sector reforms programme has gathered momentum all over

the country and apart from the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, with 12 State Electricity Regulatory Commissions now having issued tariff orders. One of the primary tasks of these Commissions is to rationalize tariffs which would lower commercial losses in the long run. Some States like West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have introduced anti-theft legislation which again would help in lowering commercial losses.

Outstanding Dues to Andhra Pradesh

3688. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian railways owes a huge amount of arrears of dues to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the police and security arrangements provided to the Railways;

(b) If so, the total amount of arrears as on July 1, 2002, January 1, 2002 and July 1, 2001;

(c) the reasons for such accumulation of arrears; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ensure early, speedy and smooth payment of such dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total amount of arrears as on July 1, 2002, January 1, 2002 and July 1, 2001 was Rs. 0.47 crore, Rs. 2.42 crores and Rs. 3.01 crores respectively.

(c) The main reason for this accumulation is non submission and late submission of mandatory Accountant General's audit certificate by the State Government for the actual claimed amount.

(d) Concerned Zonal Railways are in touch with the State Government to sort out the difficulties, if any.

Resettlement Programme in MUTP

3689. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due consideration has been given to Project Affected Persons (PAP) and their resettlement programme in MUTP;

(b) the number of families likely to be affected due to Railway components of MUTP;

(c) whether the families affected by Kurla-Thane Six Line Project have been resettled;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the latest available figures, 13,417 families are likely to be affected due to Rail components of MUTP.

(c) and (d) The details of the families affected by Kurla-Thane 5th and 6th Line Project are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(e) The details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years are given in the statement-II.

Statement-I

The details of the resettlement of families affected by Kurla-Thane 5th & 6th line project are as below:-

1.	Total No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) to be resettled	3682
2.	Total No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) resettled till now	2292
	(i) Permanent buildings	269
	(ii) Transit tenements	2023
3.	No. of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) yet to be resettled	1390

Out of 1390 PAPs yet to be resettled, 121 PAPs are tenants or owners of private land and buildings at Vidyavihar. The remaining 1269 PAPs are slum dwellers.

Statement-II

The details about the resettlement of PAP both on Suburban Railways of Western Railway and Central Railway during the last two years are as below:-

1.	Total No. of PAPs to be resettled	13417
2.	Total No. of PAPs resettled till now	10736
	(i) Permanent buildings	4030
	(ii) Transit tenements	6706
3.	No. of PAPs yet to be resettled	2681

These 2681 PAPs are to be resettled by 2004 after completion of construction of permanent buildings by Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).

Construction work in Mejia Thermal Power Station

3690. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 4th unit of Mejia Thermal Power Station has started construction work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the system of recruiting the labour and staff of construction work;

(d) whether Essar Company has any right to give employment in loading/unloading in wagons of MTPS; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Techno-economic approval for Mejia TPS Extension Unit No.4 (210 MW) was accorded by Central Electricity Authority in March, 2002. Letter of Award has since been issued by DVC to M/s. BHEL for supply, erection and commissioning of Steam Turbine, Turbo Generator, Steam Generator with associated auxiliaries, all other plant and equipment pertaining to Mechanical, Electrical, C&I with Data Acquisition System (DAS) including complete civil works. The excavation work in Boiler and Power House area has been started by M/s. BHEL. 60% of excavation work has been completed by July 2002.

(c) BHEL is responsible for recruitment of requisite labour and staff of the construction work.

(d) and (e) M/s. ESSAR Engineers have been awarded contract for maintenance of Coal handling Plant of Existing Mejia Thermal Power Station (3x210 MW) including unloading of coal wagons. M/s. ESSAR Engineers deploy their own skilled and semi-skilled personnel and engage local unskilled labourers as per their requirement.

[Translation]

Retail Outlets of IOCL in Madhya Pradesh

3691. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH BARWALA: Will the

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of retail outlets of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited in Madhya Pradesh in respect of which "L.O.I." was issued by the company to the selected applicants; and

(b) the number of such retail outlets for which application forms were sold by the company under different names and received under different names?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As on 31.7.2002, 163 Letters of Intent for retail outlet dealerships were issued by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. in the State of Madhya Pradesh since the inception of Marketing Plan concept.

(b) The number of such retail outlet dealerships for which application forms were sold by the company under different names and received under different names is 30.

Disconnection of Electricity in H.E.C. Ranchi

3692. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the H.E.C., Ranchi is not making payment of its electricity bills due to which the electricity connection of the said undertaking was cut several times affecting the production adversely;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The electricity connection of HEC, Ranchi was cut on some occasions due to non-payment of electricity bills. After formation of Jharkhand State Electricity Board (JSEB) disconnection of electricity was done only once for a short period.

(b) At times payment of electricity bills have been irregular due to funds constraints and because of dispute regarding reconciliation of the total outstanding amount.

(c) Government had released a non-plan loan Rs.14.89 crore in February 2000 to HEC for payment of electricity bills. The Government of India had written to State Government of Bihar and, subsequently Jharkhand for settlement of the dispute.

[English]

Parambikulam-Allyar Project

3693. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for the enhancement of production of electricity as per the agreement of Parambikulam-Allyar Project situated in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds for Power Reform

3694. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to raise a fund of one billion dollars from private sector and financial institutions for power reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Non-Resident Indians are likely to be approached for making contribution to this fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) Under 16th Electric Power Survey, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has projected a requirement of capacity addition of around 1,07,000 MW by 2012 AD. This along with associated Transmission & Distribution (T&D) system is estimated to require an investment of around Rs.8,00,000 crores. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has mooted a concept of India Power Fund (IPF) to meet the debt and equity requirements for this purpose. The proposal is at present at conceptual stage.

[Translation]

Allowing Ticketless Travellers

3695. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases came to the notice of the Government in which the T.T.I. allowed the passengers to travel without tickets in the train by taking bribe from them during the last three years; and

(b) the measures taken to catch hold such officers and the action taken against the guilty T.T.I.s?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) During the last three years, incidents of Travelling Ticket Exammers (TTEs), taken up for allowing unauthorised travel on trains, were 521 in 1999-2000, 450 in 2000-2001 & 518 in 2001-2002.

(b) Regular and surprise checks are conducted by the Commercial and Vigilance Departments to check malpractices, if any, being indulged in by the ticket checking staff manning the trains and disciplinary action is taken against the erring staff.

Gauge Conversion in Rajasthan

3696. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gauge conversion projects in Rajasthan which have been taken up in the Rail Budget during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) the details of the projects on which the work has been started, project-wise;

(c) the projects on which the work has not been started so far alongwith the reasons therefor, project-wise; and

(d) the target date fixed for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The details of gauge conversion works in progress in Rajasthan alongwith target dates, wherever fixed, is given as under:

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Project	Year of Inclusion in the Budget	Kms.	Anticipated Cost	Anticipated Expenditure upto March 2002.	Budget outlay 2002-03	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Pipar Road-Bilara	1993-94	41	21.46	0.56	5	The work from Phulera-Jodhpur has been completed and commissioned. The section from Pipar Road to Bilara has been sanctioned as a material modification of Phulera-Jodhpur. Due to low operational priority and very light traffic on Pipar Road-Bilara section, the work was accorded lower priority. Arrangements are being made to take up the work. No target has yet been fixed.
2.	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar	1997-98	116	68.72	0.08	0.01	Work will be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances action for which has been taken up. No target has yet been fixed.
3.	Luni-Barmer-Munabao	1997-98	297	283.94	88.26	0.1	Luni-Samdari and Samdari-Jasai section: (200 Km.) are targeted for completion during 2002-03. Jasai-Munabao section is targeted for completion during 2003-04.
4.	Bhildi-Samdari	1990-91	223	244.74	1.25	15	This work was sanctioned in 1990-91 as a part of Kandla-Bhatinda rail link. The work has been recently defrozen. Preliminary arrangements are being made to take up the work. No target has yet been fixed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Rewari-Sadulpur including material modification from Sadulpur-Hissar	1997-98	211	282.76	0.22	10.86	Final location survey has been completed. Preparation of Plans and Estimates have been taken up. No target has yet been fixed.
6.	Phulera-Marwar-Ahmedabad	1990-94	572	632.35	623.35	9	Work of Phulera-Ahmedabad has been completed and commissioned. Residual works of Ahmedabad Yard remodelling and other works are in progress. Gauge conversion of Rewari-Delhi 2nd line is also a part of this work where formation works have been completed. Conversion of this line will be dovetailed with conversion of adjoining metre gauge sections. No target has yet been fixed.
7.	Agra-Bandikui	1995-96	152	178.03	16.29	26	Earthwork and bridges are in progress. The work is planned for completion in about 3 years period as per availability of resources
8.	Ajmer-Udaipur-Chittaurgarh including material modification for extension from Udaipur to Umra	1996-97	311	294.69	34.85	30	Earthwork and bridges are in progress between Udaipur and Chittaurgarh (114 Km.). Work is also being planned for bridges on Ajmer-Chittaurgarh section. No target has yet been fixed.

Rail Projects in Uttaranchal

3697. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any review of target fixed for Railway Projects that were started in Uttaranchal during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Railway Project which are running comparatively at a low pace or running behind the schedule with regard to achieving their targets alongwith the amount so far spent on them;

(d) whether the Government are taking any time bound steps to complete the said projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e) There is only one project in Uttaranchal i.e. gauge conversion of Lakuan-Bareilly taken up as part of Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly gauge conversion project. No target has so far been fixed for conversion of this section. Preliminary works like preparation of plan and estimate have been taken up. The work would be taken up once the estimate is finalized and would be completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.

(English)

IREPP

3698. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centres so far identified for the Implementation of Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme (IREPP) throughout the country;

(b) the number of schemes expanded so far for the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the action is being taken to harness the wind energy at Rameswaram and Muppandal in Tamil Nadu where Annual wind speed is estimated to be around 27 KMPH;

(d) the number of Inaccessible villages that got electricity generated by Solar Energy System;

(e) whether all the 13 energy parks sanctioned to Tamil Nadu by MNES are satisfactorily functioning; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) A total of 860 blocks have been sanctioned so far for the implementation of Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) throughout the country. The IREP is being implemented during the current year 2002-2003 on the same pattern approved for the Ninth Five Year Plan. The programme is being modified in consultation with the States and the Planning Commission for more effective implementation and proposed expansion during the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) A total of about 425 MW commercial wind power projects have been installed in Muppandal -Perungudi area of Tamil Nadu. As per studies conducted under the National Wind Resource Assessment Programme, Rameswaram has

been found to have wind power potential. However, no commercial wind power projects have come up so far at Rameswaram.

(d) A total of 2771 villages and hamlets have been electrified through solar energy systems and power plants under the Solar Photovoltaic Programme and Village Electrification Programme. Most of the villages and hamlets are in remote and difficult areas. In addition, 434 villages and hamlets are being electrified through solar photovoltaic systems and power plants.

(e) and (f) The State implementing nodal agency - Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) have informed that out of a total of 13 energy parks sanctioned in Tamil Nadu, six energy parks at Dalit Liberation Education Trust, Kadalure, Kancheepuram district; Anna University, Chennai; Madurai Kamraj University, Madurai; Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore; Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram; and PSG college of Technology, Coimbatore are functioning satisfactorily. Six energy parks at Tamil Nadu Science and Technology, Trichy; Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari; MEPCO Science Engineering College, Virudhunagar district; Periyar Maniammai College of Technology for Women, Thanjavur; Annamalai University, Annamalai; and RMK Engineering College, Thiruvallur district are expected to be completed during the current year 2002-2003. Further, TEDA have informed that the energy park at Kongu Polytechnic, Perundurai, Erode district is expected to be completed by March, 2003.

New Power Projects in Orissa

3699. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the new power projects to be taken up during the Tenth Plan period in Orissa;

(b) the details thereof, the project cost, sources of finance and organizations entrusted to undertake the projects, if any;

(c) the latest power availability in Orissa, source-wise and organization-wise; and

(d) the details of the latest power tariff for agriculture, irrigation and domestic use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The following power projects are programmed for the State of Orissa for capacity addition during the 10th Plan:

1. Talcher STPP St.II (4x500 MW) - NTPC
2. Ballmeia HEP Extn. (2x75 MW) - OHPC

The approved project cost of Talcher STPP St. II is Rs.6648.83 crore. It will be financed with a debt equity ratio of 70:30 with debt funding from market borrowings and equity funding planned from NTPC's internal resources.

Ballmeia HEP Extn. is being executed by M/s. Orissa Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC) and the Techno-economic clearance was accorded by Central Electricity Authority on 5.01.2001 at a completed cost of Rs.210.94 crore. A contract was signed with M/s. LMZ, Russia on 31.10.1996 for supply, erection and commissioning on turnkey basis.

(c) The details of availability of power as on June, 2002 source-wise and organization-wise are given as under:

- Own generation	690 Million Units
- Drawal from central sector against share	205 Million Units
- Import from HPCL and ICCL	106 Million Units
- Muchkund Share	32 Million Units.
Total	1033 Million Units

(d) The average tariff (revised estimate) for the year 2000-01 for domestic and irrigation (agriculture) in Orissa was 175.72 paisa/Kwh and 107.73 paisa/Kwh, respectively.

[Translation]

Tender by IOCL for Construction and Repairing Work

3700. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited invites tenders for execution of works related to construction and repairing;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited takes approval of the Tata Consultancy Limited for awarding contracts to the firms which have submitted their tenders in this regard;

(c) if so, the total number of contracts awarded to construction firms through tenders in Madhya Pradesh by the Corporation since 2000, till date; and

(d) the number of tenders out of them not approved by the Tata Consultancy Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) had appointed M/s TCE Consulting Engineers as Consultant for tendering of zonal rate contract for works to be carried out in a few States, including Madhya Pradesh, for the period from November, 2000 to October, 2002. The scope of work of this Consultant is limited to rate analysis of various items, preparation of tenders, verification of documents of the tenderers and putting up their recommendations to IOCL for final approval for empanelment of contractors.

Based on the zonal contract finalized by the Western Region of IOCL through M/s TCE Consulting Engineers, a total of 660 work orders was issued for works in Madhya Pradesh, including Chhattisgarh, during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.

[English]

NOC for Basic Amenities to Slum in Mumbai

3701. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested for permission of the Central Government for the implementation of their slum rehabilitation scheme on the land belonging to the Railways;

(b) if so, whether the necessary No Objection Certificate has been issued to the State Government for this ambitious programme of providing free housing to the slum dwellers; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Evasion of Sales Tax

3702. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Railways administration abetted the evasion of sales tax on the scrap material in UP amounting to Rs. 1.36 crore as has been brought out by C&AG in its Report No.9 of 2002 on page 119 in para 3.4.9;

(b) if so, the action taken against the person concerned for defective provision in the general condition of sale by auction;

(c) whether the money has been recovered from the dealer to whom scrap was sold with interest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such abetment. UP sales tax authorities' claim for payment of Sales Tax arrears of Rs. 1.32 crores from Eastern Railway has been disputed and the matter is subjudice before the Hon'ble Revisional Bench of UP Trade Tax Tribunal, Varanasi.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Freight Charges

3703. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has received a request from the Cement Manufacturers Association to reduce Railway Freight charges to lift exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No Sir. Ministry of Railways have not received any official request from Cement Manufacturers Association for reducing freight charges for cement to lift exports. However, this issue was raised during a recent meeting of Rail Cement Coordination Group (RCCG).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Recruitment in Army

3704. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the youth of Jammu and Kashmir particularly of Rajouri and Poonch have been demanding for

accelerating recruitment drive in Army and Para-Military forces;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to set up recruitment offices at Rajouri and Poonch; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The people of Rajouri and Poonch had made a demand for more recruitment in Central Para Military Forces to the then Home Minister when he visited Jammu and Kashmir in June 1999.

(b) Representation of Jammu and Kashmir in the Central Para Military Forces is on the high side as compared to the population ratio of the State. However, in addition to the usual annual recruitment in the Central Para Military Forces, special recruitment is conducted in Jammu and Kashmir from 1990 onwards, by allocating extra vacancies. Instruction have also been issued to all Central Para Military Forces to allot 5% of the recruitment in new battalions, to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Two Central Para Military Force battalions were also raised for recruitment amongst the surrendered militants of Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Rail Link with Mining Belt Areas

3705. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lay Railway lines connecting the mining belt in the country particularly Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Railways have undertaken to construct a number of New Lines to connect the mining areas in the country. Details of all ongoing New Lines projects in Orissa including those in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts of Orissa are given in the statement enclosed. All these projects have been sanctioned and are being progressed as per their relative priority as well as availability of resources.

Statement

New Lines Projects in Orissa

Project	Rly.	Cost	Anticipated Expenditure upto March 2002	Budget Outlay 2002-03	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
(Rupees in Crores)					
Angul-Sukinda Road	SER	245.58	0.68	1.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Report is under finalisation. Soil exploration for all 17 major bridges has been completed. The Railway was advised to check up the detailed position of the Steel plants proposed to be served by this line. Traffic reappraisal report is under scrutiny.
Daitari-Banspani	SER	585.12	345.77	40.00	The Line from Banspani to Joruli (11 km) has been completed on 20-10-2000 and opened for Good traffic. Earthwork, bridgework and other works are in progress. Formation is ready for 110 km from km 0-123. Section from Joruli to Keonjhar is targeted for completion during 2002-03.
Haridaspur-Paradeep	SER	301.63	16.17	5.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and submitted for 45 villages out of 84 villages. Possession of land pertaining to 14 villages has been taken over.
Khurda Road-Bolangir	SER	700.00	14.16	5.00	The work of final location survey for 106 km completed and the balance is in progress. The work in first 2.5 km of length from Khurda Road end has commenced where land is available with the Railway. Rs. 3.66 Crore has so far been deposited with the State Govt. for land acquisition.
Koraput-Rayaguda	SER	485.00	479.44	0.01	The work has been completed and commissioned.
Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	SER	105.08	16.93	2.00	In phase-I, work has been taken up from Lanjigarh to Bhawanipatna (31 km). Land acquisition for 737 acre out of 1021 acre is completed except for

1	2	3	4	5	6
					forest land for which stage I approval has been obtained. Earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress on Lanjigarh-Bhawanipatna section.
Talcher-Sambalpur	SER	464.38	455.01	0.01	Completed and commissioning.

[English]

Cost of Generation

3706. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the details of the cost of generating per unit of thermal, hydro and gas based power in the country, each separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): The average per unit cost of generation from various sources during 2000-2001 was as under:-

Source	Paise/Kwh
Coal	151*
Hydro	63*
Gas	220*

* All India weighted average.

[Translation]

Nude and Obscene Photo of Women in Newspapers

3707. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that nude and obscene photo of women are shown in the several newspapers;

(b) if so, whether showing nude photo of women are also a part of news;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures adopted by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Press Council of India, a statutory authority established for preserving

the freedom of the Press and for maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in the country, has formulated guidelines viz., the Norms for Journalistic Conduct according to which newspapers/journalists shall not publish anything which is obscene, vulgar or offensive to public good taste. The Press Council receives complaints against the newspapers publishing obscene photographs of women and also initiates suo-motu inquiry against the erring newspapers, advising them to refrain from publishing such photographs which can attract punishment under various laws, e.g., the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, etc.

[English]

Railway Accident in Punnol

3708. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a rail accident in Punnol, Thalassery in Kannur district on the manned level crossing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir. On 27.06.2002 at 08.54 hrs. 6345 Netravathi Express dashed against a road vehicle at Manned level crossing No.224 between Tellicherry and Mahe stations of Palghat Division of Southern Railway. As a result, one person got killed and another injured.

(b) The accident is being inquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety/Southern Circle, and his inquiry report is awaited.

(c) Following steps are taken to avoid recurrence of accidents at level crossings:-

(i) Manned Level Crossings having very heavy traffic density are progressively interlocked with signals on a planned basis.

- (ii) Telephones are also being gradually provided at all manned level crossing gates.
- (iii) Surprise checks, night inspections and periodic safety drives are regularly conducted to check the alertness of gatemen.
- (iv) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is imposed on staff held responsible for causing accidents.
- (v) Special Drives are launched to identify errant road users at Unmanned Level Crossings in co-ordination with Transport Authorities.
- (vi) Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.
- (vii) Audio-visual publicity campaigns are conducted to educate road users on how to negotiate a crossing safely.

Funds for Biomass Programme

3709. SHRI K. E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has stopped releasing loans under Bio-Mass Projects in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any loan for such projects have been denied; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) When the number of biomass power projects approved in Andhra Pradesh became quite large, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) were asked to put on hold loans for further projects in the State.

(c) and (d) IREDA have registered one biomass co-generation project received from the State of Andhra Pradesh in July, 2001, based on the eligibility norms, and the same is yet to be sanctioned. No eligible biomass project is denied loan by IREDA in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Procurement of Wagons

3710. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.763 dated July 18, 2002 regarding procurement of Wagons and state:

- (a) the reasons for restricting the decision to go for competitive tenders for procuring wagons through WIL being economical;
- (b) the reasons for not purchasing office automation equipments, furniture and stationery: stores through open tenders; and
- (c) the steps taken in that regard and the time by which the tender for the items will be invited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The procurement through competitive tenders is not restricted to wagon procurement only since Railways are following the system of procurement for all items through open tenders except for low value purchases and in exceptional cases.

- (c) Does not arise.

Training to Electrical Engineers by PMI

3711. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Power Management Institute promoted by NTPC has decided to impart training to 2 lakh electrical engineers;
- (b) if so, the details of the plan drawn up by the PMI;
- (c) whether electrical engineers of Maharashtra are likely to be selected for this training; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The Power Management Institute (PMI) of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has made plans to train about 3000 Engineers in Distribution Management from NTPC and State Electricity Boards during the next three years. All SEBs/utilities can nominate their engineers for such training on payment.

Minimising Leakage of Revenue

3712. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the measures taken to minimise leakage of revenue on account of ticketless travelling, touts menace, unbooked luggage, booked freight showing less weight etc. there still exist ample scope for improvement in minimising leakage of revenue;

(b) if so, the number of surprise checks made by the officers of the rank of DRM and above in this regard during the last one year till date and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to strengthen the vigil by the Railways on leakage of revenue to Railways by associating public men in the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The Railways are taking continuous steps for technological upgradation as well as intensive physical checking to stop leakage of revenue. Physical checks are carried out involving a large number of Commercial, Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel as well as personnel from other departments like Vigilance. The presence of force is essential in most of the ticket checking drives as a support. Test checks on weight of the luggage booked as well as unbooked luggage are also carried out during these raids. Regular train checking is also done by ticket checking staff manning the train. In these checks, senior officers of the Railways including the Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) and above participate. However, statistics of the number of checks in which DRMs and above participate are not maintained.

(c) Immediate action is taken on information received about leakage of Railway revenue from citizens.

Setting up of TPP in M.P.

3713. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme relating to setting up of Thermal Power Plant in Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) has been approved;

(b) if so, whether any work has been started on the said scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) for a 342 MW Combined Cycle Power Project at Bhandar, Distt. Gwalior, (now in Distt. Datia) in Madhya

Pradesh to be developed by M/s. Bhandar Power Ltd. in March, 1998. However, due to non-availability of appropriate payment security mechanism from Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board (MPSEB) to the project developer - the power project has been shelved for the present.

Wind Mills

3714. SHRI K.K. KALIAPPAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wind mills all over the country alongwith their wind production;

(b) whether there is any proposal to have this wind mills projects in backward hilly areas of our country in order to provide employment opportunities for the tribal population; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) An aggregate wind power capacity of 1628 MW has been installed in the country, as on 31.03.2002. These projects have generated over 9 billion units of electricity so far. In addition, about 800 water pumping wind mills, small aerogenerators and hybrid systems of aggregate capacity 125 KW have also been installed.

(b) and (c) Wind power projects are set up in windy locations, which are mostly found in remote, hilly, tribal and backward areas. Employment opportunities have been created by these projects in several States.

Maintenance of NH-52

3715. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of maintenance and repairs of National Highway 52 has been going from bad to worse day by day ever since the NH-52 was placed under Border Roads Organisation for maintenance purposes;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints and representations from the respective State Governments and other representatives and organisations about the condition of the road;

(c) if so, the steps taken to repair and upgrade the NH-52; and

(d) the time by which the repairs would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Out of total length of 904 km. of National Highway 52, 377 km. falling in Arunachal Pradesh is not going from bad to worse and is satisfactory. The balance length of 567 km. falling in Assam and handed over to BRO in May/June, 2002 only, is in bad condition.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) During this financial year an amount of nearly 30 crores is to be spent to repair the road. Time required for total repair can be assessed only after final survey.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Channels in Regional Languages

3716. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Kendras of Doordarshan all over the country, name-wise;

(b) the Kendra-wise daily and weekly telecast timings in hours of these kendras;

(c) the Doordarshan Kendras from which programmes are being telecast on commission or royalty basis; and

(d) the rate at which payment is being made for these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that there are 58 Doordarshan Kendras all over the country. The list is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) All Kendras telecast commissioned and/or royalty programmes depending on programme exigencies. Kendra wise details are not maintained centrally at Doordarshan Headquarters.

(d) The rates for commissioning of programmes are decided by the costing committee of the Kendra depending upon the merit of the proposals. The rate structure for Royalty based programmes are decided in the Doordarshan Directorate and implemented accordingly by the Kendras.

Statement

List of Kendras

List of 30 Regional Kendras in the State Capitals and Union Territories

1. Agartala
2. Ahmedabad
3. Aizwal
4. Bangalore
5. Bhubaneswar
6. Bhopal
7. Chennai
8. Delhi
9. Dehradun
10. Guwahati
11. Hyderabad
12. Imphal
13. Itanagar
14. Jalandhar
15. Jaipur
16. Kohima
17. Kolkata
18. Lucknow
19. Mumbai
20. Panaji
21. Pondicherry
22. Patna
23. Ranchi
24. Raipur
25. Shimla
26. Shilong
27. Srinagar

28. Thiruvananthapuram *List of 2 CPCs (Central Production Centres)*
29. Chandigarh 1. CPC (Delhi)
30. Port-Blair 2. CPC (North East)

*List of 26 Non-Capital Kendras**[English]*

1. Allahabad **Renovation of C-II Hutments**

2. Bareilly 3717. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

3. Bhavani Pattanam

4. Dalton Ganj (a) whether a large sum was spent in renovating C-II Hutments on Dalhousie Road and the same is likely to go for demolition to make room for the construction of DRDO building;

5. Dibrugarh

5. Gorakhpur (b) If so, the reasons for having incurred such a huge sums having know fully well that the Block is to be demolished ultimately;

7. Gwalior

8. Gulbarga

9. Indore (c) whether there is any proposal to fix the accountability and responsibility of officials for causing financial loss to the State;

10. Jalpaiguri

11. Jagdalpur (d) If so, the details thereof;

12. Jammu

13. Leh

14. Mathura

15. Mau

16. Muzaffarpur

17. Nagpur

18. Pune

19. Rajkot

20. Sambalpur

21. Shanti Niketan

22. Silchar

23. Trichur

24. Tura

25. Varanasi

26. Vijawada

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No renovation work in C-II Hutments on Dalhousie Road has been sanctioned subsequent to the decision taken to demolish and make room for the construction of DRDO building.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) 'E' Block hutments had been vacated but never demolished. Renovation of these structures has been sanctioned to accommodate shifting of offices from C-II hutments.

(f) Does not arise.

Rail Line between Tumkur and Chitradurga

3718. SHRI SHASHI KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey has been conducted to lay a new railway line between Tumkur and Chitradurga in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the outcome of the survey alongwith the total cost thereof;

(c) whether any funds allocated for this project during the year 2002-2003:

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per the survey report of 1999, the cost of construction of this 195.76 km long line from Tumkur to Davangere via Chitradurga was assessed as Rs. 299.59 crore with a rate of return of (-) 51.37%. Due to unremunerative nature of the proposal and heavy throw forward of ongoing works, it was not considered feasible to take up the project.

Allocation of Extra Rakes for Export of Maize

3719. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request from the Government of Karnataka, is pending with his Ministry for allocation of

sufficient rakes for export of Maize from Karnataka to Bangladesh;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has also sent a reminder to the Railways in this regard during January, 2002; and

(c) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka has already been advised about the present position that the Indian Railways are constrained to regulate the loading due to limited acceptance of trains by Bangladesh Railway.

Projects in A.P.

3720. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of communications received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in regard to rail projects of the State; and

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The following demands have been received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in regard to rail projects in Andhra Pradesh in the recent past and their status is as under:

S. No.	Demand	Status
1	2	3
1.	Setting up of Railway Infrastructure Corporation for taking up rail projects in Andhra Pradesh and running of passenger train between Adilabad and Nagpur	Ministry of Railways have issued guidelines for participation of State Governments and other user agencies of rail projects. These guidelines have been intimated to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Introduction of passenger trains between Nagpur and Adilabad would require upgradation of the track on the Majri-Adilabad section and provision of basic infrastructural facilities. A survey for determining the feasibility of these works has been ordered and the work will be taken after the survey is completed and found justified.
2.	Gauge conversion of Mudkhed-Adilabad section	The work was taken up under BOLT scheme. However,

1	2	3
		contractors could not progress the work due to financial problems. The contract has been terminated and now the work has been planned through railway funds. Earthwork for 80 km. length has been completed. Tenders for balance work have been processed. An outlay of Rs. 30 crores has been provided during 2002-2003.
3.	Hospet-Guntakal Doubling	Final location survey has been completed. This project is proposed under KRIDE funding with a view to expedite the progress. The work would be progressed as per the availability of resources. On Bellary-Tomagaluru, earthwork and minor bridges have been taken up. Tenders have been processed for major bridges also.
4.	Survey for linking New Airport coming up at Shamshabad from Falaknama	The survey for doubling of Falaknama-Umdanagar and new line from Umdanagar to Shamshabad for providing connectivity to the New Airport has been completed recently.

Cadre of Tracers

3721. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board through their letter No. E(NG)II/85/RC-2/7 dated April 18, 1985 and PC-III/84/UPG/19 dated June 25, 1985 had abolished the cadre of Tracers in various disciplines of Civil Engineering Department on the Zonal Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these orders are applicable to those employees who were already working prior to the issue of Board's letter dated April 18, 1985 and June 25, 1985;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Railway Board through their letter No. E(NG)I-2000/CFP/14 dated November 10, 2000 regularised the appointments of certain Tracers of Construction Department of Northern Railway, New Delhi with prospective effect;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the issue of Board's letter November 10, 2000 permits creation/operation of posts in the category of Tracers, after the issue of Board's orders dated April 18, 1985 and June 25, 1985; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of the substantial improvement effected in

technology, the posts of Tracers had become obsolete and were slated for abolition. As a precursor to abolition of the cadre, it was decided to freeze direct recruitment and promotion to the post of Tracer in the year 1985. However, the then existing regular incumbents of the post of Tracers were to be progressively promoted by upgrading the post as Junior Draftsmen in the higher grade which was to be the initial grade in the cadre after all the posts of Tracers had been worked off.

(e) to (h) Yes, Sir. S/Shri Govind Ram, Ummed Singh, Jagdish Singh, Shiv Shanker & Mange Ram were regularised as Tracers as a special case, in order to remove the hardship, with prospective effect, as they were continuously working as Tracers albeit on ad-hoc basis prior to abolition of the cadre. The operation of the post of Tracers is personal to incumbents only and the same does not in any way amount to revival of the cadre. Accordingly, as and when they vacate the post, the same will cease to exist,

Increase in Dealer's Commission

3722. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil Corporations are bound to increase the RPO dealer's Commission themselves as per formula to neutralise the impact of price hike of petrol and diesel since the APM has been dismantled;

(b) if so, whether the Oil Corporations have increased the Commission with the price hike or shall reimburse the same to the dealers; and

(c) if so, the time by which the action in this regard be completed to avoid unnecessary harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) effective 1st April 2002, the pricing of petrol and diesel has become market determined. Post APM, rates of dealers' commission would be decided by the oil companies.

Retail Outlet at Panchkula

3723. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an interview was conducted in the year 1999 by DSB for grant of IOC retail outlet at Panchkula, Sector 14, Haryana;

(b) If so, the details of persons placed on the panel and the present position of the panel;

(c) whether any complaint is pending against the empanelled candidates with IOC/Ministry;

(d) if so, whether Letter of Intent can be issued to person against whom investigation/complaint is pending; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the candidates included in the merit panel and the present position of the panel are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) A complaint against the third empanelled candidate has been received in the Ministry.

(d) and (e) The Letter of Intent was issued to the third empanelled candidate on 16-7-2002 by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

However, the Government have decided to initiate steps to cancel all the allotments of retail outlets dealership /LPG distributorships/SKO-LDO dealership made with effect from January, 2000 till date.

Statement

Details of the candidates included in the merit panel for the retail outlet dealership at Panchkula.

Order of Merit	Name of the Candidate	Present Status
1.	Shri Ajay Gupta	Disqualified due to concealment of Income which was substantiated on investigated of the complaints. Chairman DSB gave the ruling that the 2nd empanelled candidate be considered for issuance of LOI.
2.	Shri Sudhir Kumar Sharma	Candidate expired on 16.1.2001 before FIR could be conducted. Smt. Nirmala Shamra wife of late deceased represented that her name should be substituted in place of her husband. Chairman DSB, gave the opinion that her claim is not maintainable and advised for issuance of LOI to 3rd empanelled candidates.
3.	Shri Sanjeev Kalla	There was complaint against the 3rd empanelled candidate, which was investigated by a Committee of DGM (S) & CFM, Delhi State Officer & report was submitted to Chairman, DSB, on 29.11.2001. Subsequent to this, another complaint was received & got investigated by a committee of DGM (S) & CFM, Delhi State Office of IOC (MD) & report submitted to Chairman DSB on 2.4.2002. On dissolution of DSBs w.e.f. 9.5.2002 afternoon, the matter was referred back to GM, Delhi State Office. In line with Ministry's letter No. P-19011/6/2000-IOC dated 20th May, 2002, GM Delhi State Office, based on committee report & after getting confirmation that no Court case is pending gave the decision for issuance of LOI on 5.7.2002.

[Translation]

Regularization of Staff

3724. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the existing rules for regularization of group "D" employees and their adjustment against the vacancies in each department under her Ministry;

(b) whether the temporary group "D" employees are not being regularised against the vacancies; and

(c) the number of temporary employees regularised during each of the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The regularization of Casual Labourers with Temporary Status (CLTS) is governed by the scheme formulated by the Department of Personnel & Training titled "Casual Labourers (Grant of Temporary Status and Regularization) Scheme of Government of India, 1993", as contained in their O.M.No.51016/2/90-Estt.(C) dated the 10th September, 1993. The said scheme is being followed subject to various judgements given by the courts in the petitions filed by the CLTS working in the media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. A Common inter-se Seniority List (CISL) of CLTS engaged by various media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting including the Main Secretariat has been prepared and the candidates are being regularized on the basis of their seniority, reservation status and availability of vacancies.

(c) The requisite details are as follows:

Year	No. of CLTS regularised
1999*	3
2000	39
2001	4
2002 (Up to 31.7.2002)	4

* Pertaining to DPD only.

[English]

Training to Newscasters in DD

3725. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIPPAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati has signed an agreement with BBC for training the Newscasters for Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No agreement has been signed between Doordarshan and BBC. BBC had, however, trained 21 newscasters for 2 weeks along with some in-house staff without any payment.

[Translation]

Free Passes to the Members of DRUCC

3726. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to give free passes for travel by rail for study purposes to the members of D.R.U.C.C. in their respective divisions;

(b) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided by the Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The members of Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee (DRUCC) are appointed with a view to securing better representation of Railway users and affording more frequent opportunities for consultation between Railway Administrations and users on matters relating to the service provided by Railways and means of improving the efficiency of such service. At present, non-official members of Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee while coming to attend the meetings of the Committee are given a free first class pass with attendant in sleeper class from the Railway station nearest to the place of residence of the members to the place of meeting and back. The members of DRUCC are expected to give suggestions during the meeting on the basis of their experience gained by them in their dealings with the Railway.

[English]

LPG Bottling Plants and Depots in Karnataka

3727. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited have decided to invest Rs. 105 crore in Karnataka to set up LPG bottling plants and POL depots;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have also decided to invest Rs. 30 crores to set up a LPG bottling plant in Bangalore;

(c) if so, the amount provided by the State Government for necessary clearance to acquire land needed for setting up the venture; and

(d) the time by which a final decision to start construction is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has planned to invest Rs. 113 crores for setting up of a bottling plant at Shimoga and POL depots at Belgaum (commissioned in June, 2002), Gulbarga and Hassan in Karnataka. Similarly, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has the plan to set up a bottling plant at Bangalore with the estimated cost of Rs. 35 crores. BPCL has initiated necessary action for procurement of a suitable land through Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB). The project shall be financed through internal resources of BPCL.

[Translation]

Supply of Spare Parts by America

3728. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether America is not supplying spares of British Sea-King Helicopters and Sea Harrier aircraft to Indian Navy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with the Government of America; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government of America thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) to (d) The spare parts for British made Sea King Helicopters and Sea Harrier aircraft are supplied to the Indian Navy by the British firms. However, some spares which are of American origin could not be supplied when the licences of the British firms were withdrawn by the Government of United States (US) after imposition of sanctions. After announcement of lifting of the sanctions on 22nd September 2001, the British firms have re-applied for registration of licences which are pending with the US Government. The issue of restoration of licences has been taken up by Government of India with the US Government who are making efforts to clear the cases.

[English]

Re-appointment under Article 164(4)

3729. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards a Supreme Court judgement on August, 17, 2001 in S.R Choudhary Vs. State of Punjab that no one can be re-appointed under Article 164(4) without getting elected to the Legislature;

(b) whether any guidelines on this issue has been formulated by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to deal with such a situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Induction of Cameraman to IBPS

3730. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the notification issued on November 5, 1990 notified that Doordarshan Cameraman Gr.I will be inducted IBPS after two years of service;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission para 73.51 had recommended that cameraman Gr.I who is working in Doordarshan will be inducted to IBPS; and

(c) If so, the details thereof and the reasons of not inducing any cameraman Gr.I to IBPS?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) By a notification dated 5th November, 1990, Cameramen Grade-I in the pay scale of Rs. 2375-3500/- with two years' regular service were made eligible for vacancies specifically marked for Programme Officer (Cameraman) at Junior Time Scale level. This clause could not be made operative as there is no post of Programme Officer (Cameraman).

(b) and (c) The Vth Central Pay Commission recommended encadrement of Cameraman Grade-I in IBPS. However, due to pending litigation the matter is sub-judice.

[Translation]

Enquiry Counter at New Delhi Railway Station

3731. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one enquiry counter exists on New Delhi Railway Station on which long queue rest everytime due to which the passengers who come only few minutes early to catch the train, miss their trains and many problems are being faced by the persons coming to receive and see off their relatives; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to resolve the problems in the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) There are six enquiry counters at New Delhi Railway Station. Besides, Central Enquiry System is functioning round the clock for telephonic enquiry: There is an ongoing effort to improve dissemination of information to passengers by augmenting the facilities and train the staff for handling Rail users in better manner.

[English]

HPT Facilities for Kokrajhar

3732. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to upgrade the existing Low Transmission Centre of Kokrajhar Doordarshan to a full fledged Doordarshan Kendra with the provision of production and other facilities in the line of

Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati and other existing different State Capital cities of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard with the fund allocation and released during last three years, year-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that the scheme for setting up of a High Power Transmitter at Kokrajhar is yet to be approved. There is presently no proposal to set up Programme production facilities at Kokrajhar.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Train Load Benefits to IOC

3733. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wrong benefits of Train Load classification for L.P.G. Tank Wagon rakes through the loading was done in two placements at the L.P.G. siding of I.O.C. at Kandla Port, and this resulted in a Revenue loss of Rs. 13.38 crore; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this loss and action taken against those responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Western Railway had granted train load benefit to LPG tank wagon rakes at siding of IOC at Kandla Port when loading was done in more than one placement. Policy guidelines have since been revised with effect from 11.4.2001 to grant train load benefit to LPG tank wagon rakes when loading/unloading is done in more than one placement subject to fulfilment of all the conditions applicable to grant of train load rate benefit. However, since the revised policy is not applicable with retrospective effect, Zonal Railways have been asked to recover undercharges.

[Translation]

Free Legal Aid to SCs/STs

3734. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide free legal aid to all the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has sought guidelines from the legal experts in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to provide adequate free legal aid to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) to (d) The Government has already enacted Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society. Under section 12(a) of the aforesaid Act, a member of the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe who has to file or defend a case, is entitled to Legal Services irrespective of his/her income.

[English]

Restructuring of Officers' Cadre in Army

3735. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been examining the restructuring of officers' cadre in the Indian Army;

(b) if so, the time by which the said committee is likely to submit its report; and

(c) the measures proposed to ensure introduction of same pattern of promotions and incentives in all the three wings of Defence Services i.e. Army, Navy and Air Force to avoid any discontentment?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No specific time frame can be indicated for submission of the report.

(c) Applicability of the Committee's recommendations to the other services will be examined after submission of the report of the Committee.

Holding of Bookstalls by Individual/Partnership

3736. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ceiling has been fixed regarding

holding of bookstalls by an individual/partnership/firms etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether any ceiling has also been fixed regarding holding of bookstalls by M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s Higginbotham Ltd.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) There is no ceiling on holding of bookstalls except on M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s Higginbothams Ltd. The number of bookstalls of M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s Higginbothams Ltd. has been frozen since 1.1.1976 and changes within this limit is allowed provided they make a matching surrender of an existing stall at other station as per extant policy and Railways' operational needs.

Private Sector in Small Hydro Projects

3737. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether old Small Hydro Projects (SHPs) having generation capacity between 3-25 MW were given for Renovation and Modernisation (R&M) to private developers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether private developers have now been debarred to undertake renovation etc.; and

(d) if so, the reasons for banning such private developers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. So far, old Small Hydro Power (SHP) projects owned by the State Governments have not been given to private developers for their Renovation & Modernization (R&M).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Private developers are not debarred from undertaking R&M works of old SHP projects.

Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution in Gujarat

3738. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the

position of Power Generation/Distribution/Transmission in Private and Public Sector in Gujarat during the last three years;

(in MUs)

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested for more share of Power from the Central Pool;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have received any proposal/request to set-up a new power project in the State; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Energy Requirement	51202	53038	53693
Availability	46994	47877	47530
Shortage	4208	5161	6163
	(8.2%)	(9.7%)	(11.5%)
Peak Demand	7554	7801	8005
Peak met	5962	6905	6700
Shortage	1592	896	1305
	(21.1%)	(11.5%)	(16.3%)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government periodically reviews all projects, both in generation and transmission, which are identified for commissioning in the Plan period. The power supply position in respect of Gujarat for the last three years is given below:

The details regarding transmission works (220 KV and above) completed during the 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as under:

Works	400 KV		220 KV	
	Transmission Lines (Ckm)	Sub Stations (MVA)	Transmission Lines (Ckm)	Sub Stations (MVA)
1999-2000	207	1445	277	950
2000-01	1	315	360	450
2001-02	0	815	236	550

In the financial year 2001-02, the Gujarat Electricity Board has been given Rs.109.62 crore under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme. This included Rs.2.23 crore for Renovation and Modernisation of Wanakbori Thermal Power Station, Rs.6.49 crores for Sub-transmission and Distribution systems improvement in Sabarmati circle, Rs.4.90 crore for Palanpur and Himmatnagar and Rs.96 crore for Kutch. Gujarat Electricity Board has also been provided Rs 21.35 crore for improvement of distribution system in Jamnagar, Himmatnagar and Sabarmati circles.

(c) and (d) No request from Gujarat Government has been received for allocation of more share from Central Pool during the last three years.

(e) and (f) The following proposals for setting up of power projects in Gujarat are under examination of Central Electricity Authority for grant of Techno-economic Clearance:

1. Surat Lignite Power Plant Expansion Ph-II (2x125MW) at Mangrol in Surat Distt. by M/s Gujarat Industries Power Corporation Ltd.

2. Kutch Lignite TPS Expansion Unit No.4 (75MW) in Distt Kutch by M/s Gujarat Electricity Board.
3. Sikka TPS coal based Extension Unit 3 and 4 (2x250MW) at Sikka in Jamnagar District. by M/s Gujarat Electricity Board.

Extension of Manmad-Igatpuri Shuttle Service

3739. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any representation has been received by the Government to extend Manmad-Igatpuri Shuttle Service upto Kasara railway station;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Yes.

Sir. Representations from Shri Manhoar P. Patil, Member ZRUCC and Shri Surendranath Barad, ex-President, Nasik Pravasi Sanghathana, Nasik for extension of 1324/1323 Manmad-Igatpuri Passenger upto Kasara, have been received. These were examined, but not found feasible due to operational difficulties.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Allotment of Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies

3740. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations about irregularities in the allotment of petrol-diesel pumps, kerosene dealership and LPG agencies in Madhya Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to change the composition of certain Oil Selection Boards in view of the representations received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the present procedure in regard to allotment of agencies of various petroleum products in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Consequent on the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1.4.2002, all the Dealer Selection Boards in the country have been dissolved with effect from the afternoon of 9.5.2002. The selection of dealers/distributors for petroleum products will now be made by the Oil Marketing Companies themselves as per the approved guidelines.

[English]

LPG Agencies/SKO Dealers in Delhi

3741. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN:

SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of LPG agencies and SKO dealers in Delhi are having different refill sale and allocation;

(b) if so, whether new SKO dealers are given less allocation in comparison to old dealers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring uniformity in the refill sales of all LPG agencies and allocation of SKO to dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The SKO allocation to the dealers depends upon the area of distribution, the attachment of retailers made by Civil Supplies Authorities in addition to historical allocation.

(d) It is not always possible to bring at par all the LPG / SKO dealers in a given market. However, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) try to ensure that all such dealers operate at minimum economic viable level by restructuring the markets in respect of LPG distributors and SKO allocation among dealers.

Expansion of Ordnance Depot

3742. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAJRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to acquire residential areas for expansion of Bhatinda Ordnance Depot;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the possibility of expansion of the said ordnance depot on other side;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to provide alternative residence for the people to be evicted therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

Modernisation of HAL

3743. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has proposed for major expansion and modernisation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In view of the number of new programmes being undertaken by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), such as production of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), licence manufacture of Su 30 MKI and development and production of Intermediate Jet Trainer (IJT), HAL has felt the need for upgradation of technologies to match the technologies required for the development and manufacture of the above products. For this purpose, the existing facilities are being augmented and modernised. Some of the facilities proposed for modernisation include latest technology machines for production of castings and forgings, profilers, sheet metal forming machines, facilities for manufacture of composite structures, vacuum welding facilities and so on.

At present, there is no plan for further expansion in the man-power strength. Although man-power strength is likely to be maintained at the present levels, there will be sales growth through increase in productivity and outsourcing. Modernisation of facilities would enable the products of HAL in becoming globally competitive besides increasing its export potential.

Central Press Accreditation Committee

3744. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently changed their policy for the Constitution of Central Press Accreditation Committee which has sparked of a controversy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the members of the committee are selected and its total strength; and

(d) the number of journalists nominated on the committee, their names and the newspapers they represent?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The Central News Media Accreditation Rules, 1999 envisage that the Central Press Accreditation Committee (C.P.A.C) shall consist of P.I.O. as Chairperson and a maximum of 19 other members representing associations/organisations of working journalists/media persons who should be eligible for accreditation under these rules. The guidelines for nominating members to the C.P.A.C. were modified with a view to ensuring uniform representation to all recognized associations/organisations. Accordingly, one member has been included from the names sent by each of the 13 recognized associations/federations and the remaining six members have been included from amongst media persons who are eligible for accreditation under the rules, with P.I.O as the Chairperson.

A list of the present members of the C.P.A.C. is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

S.N.	Name	Association/Organisation
1	2	3
1.	Smt. N.J. Krishna, Chairperson	Principal Information Officer, PIB
2.	Sh. Jayanta Ghosal	National Union of Journalists (I) (Bartman, Kolkata)
3.	Sh. Harbhajan Singh	All India Small & Medium Newspapers Federation (Indian Observer, New Delhi)
4.	Sh. Suresh Akhauri	Indian Journalists Union (Hindustan, New Delhi)
5.	Sh. Vishwa Bandhu Gupta	All India Newspaper Editors Conference (The Tej, New Delhi)
6.	Sh. S.A.H. Rizvi	The Press Association (Delhi Mid-Day)
7.	Sh. Ramesh Sharma	Indian Federation of Working Journalists (Rashtriya Sahara)

1	2	3
8.	Sh. Lalit Shrimal	Indian Languages Newspapers Association (Dainik Madhyanchal, Ujjain)
9.	Sh. Thyagraj	Indian Federation of Small & Medium Newspapers (Phavana, Simoga)
10.	Sh. Alok Mehta	Editors Guild of India (Dainik Bhaskar)
11.	Sh. Pramod Mathur	Working News Cameramen's Association (Spot Films, New Delhi)
12.	Sh. Surinder Kapoor	News Cameramen's Association (ANI, New Delhi)
13.	Sh. Shankar Chakravarty	Association of Accredited News Cameramen (The Hindu)
14.	Sh. Ranjit Bhushan	(Outlook, New Delhi)
15.	Sh. Devsagar Singh	(Freelance)
16.	Sh. Tarun Vijay	(Panchjanya, New Delhi)
17.	Sh. Manohar Puri	(Freelance)
18.	Sh. Rajeev Deshpande	(India Today)
19.	Sh. Gopal Mishra	(Freelance)
20.	Ms. Sandhya Jain	(Freelance)

*[Translation]***Manufacturing of Ambulance**

3745. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ambulance has been manufactured in the Defence vehicle manufacturing factory, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide ambulance to the consumers in the wake of open market competition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Vehicle Factory Jabalpur has developed a prototype of an ambulance, based on technology obtained from M/s TELCO and offered it for trials to Army.

(b) and (c) The prototype is expected to suit the specific requirements of the Army and is not for the civil market.

*[English]***Indo-Iraq Agreements on Export of Wheat vis-a-vis Import of Oil**

3746. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH:

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iraq have resolved the issues

regarding export of wheat to Iraq for resumption of crude imports under the United Nations' oil for food programme; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No crude oil lifting has taken place from Iraq under the 'Oil for Food' program after December, 2000. The issue has not been resolved yet.

Funds for Rail Projects

3747. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has made any formal request to Finance Ministry for additional funds to finance its long pending projects; and

(b) If so, the State-wise details of the projects for which funds sought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways has been projecting its requirement of additional funds/Budgetary Support, to take care of the heavy shelf of ongoing Railway projects, to the Ministry of Finance through Planning Commission.

Railways has sought increased Budgetary Support to

the extent of Rs.5,500 Crores per annum during the Tenth Five Year Plan period, excluding the funds to be provided for Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) and diesel cess.

Funds are not sought State-wise. Allocation of funds against projects is however undertaken on the basis of the system indicated in Hon'ble Minister of Railways' Budget Speech 2002. for State-wise distribution of funds.

Funds to States under APDP and Reform Programme

3748. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether fund has been allocated to the States under the Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme; and

(b) If so, the details of the allocation and utilization of fund for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) An amount of Rs.1000 crores was allocated under APDRP during the year 2000- 2001 and Rs.1500 crores during the year 2001-2002. In 2002-03, advance funds were released to 24 States. Funds were not released to five States. Details of the funds allocated and utilized by the States are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	Fund Allocation 2000-01	Fund Allocation 2001-02	Fund Utilised
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	97.36	117.2	74.97
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6.32	8	
3	Assam	20.02	24.52	5.05
4	Bihar	21.44	59.2	0.75
5	Chhattisgarh	10.26	42.33	16.83
6	Delhi	Nil	45.22	
7	Goa	0	6.72	

1	2	3	4	5
8	Gujarat	109.62	82.31	30.38
9	Haryana	49.63	41.1	5.65
10	Himachal Pradesh	25.32	22.86	19.37
11	Jammu and Kashmir	6.99	46.62	
12	Jharkhand	21.98	46.51	
13	Karnataka	81.5	89.3	107.85
14	Kerala	0	51.21	
15	Madhya Pradesh	49.55	63.49	29.15
16	Maharashtra	134.46	144.45	72.33
17	Manipur	0.72	8	
18	Meghalaya	1.81	8	
19	Mizoram	1.06	8	
20	Nagaland	1.89	8	
21	Orissa	38	65.04	
22	Punjab	37.71	53.36	5.83
23	Rajasthan	45.01	70.31	11.96
24	Sikkim	6.38	8	
25	Tamil Nadu	65.54	96.35	12.1
26	Tripura	5	8	
27	Uttar Pradesh	101.46	129.62	38.59
28	Uttaranchal	4.8	55.55	4.8
29	West Bengal	43.5	90.83	44.07
Total		987.33	1500.1	479.68

Prices of Natural Gas

have urged the Union Government not to increase the price of natural gas;

3749. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has laid down a long term policy for development of hydrocarbon sector which, inter-alia, also provides phased deregulation of hydrocarbon sector and phased dismantling of Administered Price Mechanism. In line with the above policy, the natural gas prices should be market determined. Some State Governments including Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested Government against any increase in price of natural gas. No decision has been taken in the matter by the Government. While deciding the issue all factors including requests of State Government will be taken into account.

[Translation]

Foreign Investment in Power Sector

3750. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are inviting foreign investment in Power Sector in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the countries which have shown interest in making investment in Power Sector in Jammu & Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has informed that no proposal for foreign direct investment has been received and also that no 'Notice Inviting Tenders' has been floated so far by them.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

LPG Dealers in Gujarat

3751 SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allotment of LPG dealership is done arbitrary by the OSB in the rural/urban areas of Gujarat;

(b) whether in process of allotment of such dealership, Scheduled Castes, unemployed graduates, women, ex-servicemen, widows of martyrs are not given any priority; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) LPG distributorships were allotted all over the country, including the rural/urban areas of Gujarat, to the candidates selected by the Dealer Selection Boards as per the guidelines prescribed by the Government.

Reservation is provided to various sections of the society in the allotment of dealership/distributorships as under:-

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	- 25%
Physically Handicapped (PH)	- 5%
Defence Personnel (DC)	- 8%
Paramilitary/Police/Government Personnel (PMP)	- 8%
Freedom Fighters (FF)	- 2%
Outstanding Sports Persons (OSP)	- 2%
Open Category (O)	- 50%

There is no reservation for unemployed graduates.

Plantation on Railway Land

3752. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways have a large area of land lying vacant along the tracks;

(b) if so, whether the Railways has any plan to plant trees on these lands; and

(c) if so, the target fixed by Railways for afforestation in order to earn profit every year, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Land is required to be kept vacant along the Railway track, in the form of longitudinal strips, for operational and maintenance of track, that is, stacking of ballast, sleepers etc., borrowing earth in connection with routine maintenance works and for transporting Railway materials and keeping adequate buffer zone from track considering safety etc. Plantation is undertaken in some of these strips of land to maintain greenery and protect the land from unauthorised use. Permitted varieties of trees and ornamental shrubs are planted where feasible.

(c) The target of plantation fixed for the current year 2002-03 is as under:

Railway	Target of Planting Saplings (in lakhs)
Central	15.0
Eastern	12.0
Northern	18.0
North Eastern	10.0
Northeast Frontier	10.0
Southern	6.0
South Central	6.0
South Eastern	11.5
Western	20.0
Total	108.5

Smuggling of Arms

3753. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of arms and ammunitions from arms depots or ordnance factories have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these arms and ammunitions have been supplied to ultras in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No case of smuggling of arms and ammunitions from Ordnance Depots and Ordnance Factories has been reported.

(b) to (d) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Japan Visit

3754. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited Japan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed with Japan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Raksha Mantri visited Japan during 5-10 July, 2002 on the invitation of his counterpart H.E. Mr. Gen Nakatani. Besides meeting H.E. Mr. Gen Nakatani, he held talks with H.E. Mr. Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan and Ms Yoriko Kawaguchi, Japanese Foreign Minister. The discussions with the Japanese dignitaries focused on India-Japan defence cooperation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Special Concession to Power Projects

3755. SHRI BHUPENDER SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the schemes of power has not been completed during the scheduled time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to give special concessions to the power projects getting completed by the scheduled time;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this direction so far; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The details of power projects programmed for the Ninth Plan but which would now be commissioned in Tenth/Eleventh Plan is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) An annual award scheme for early completion of generation and transmission power projects is under preparation in Central Electricity Authority.

Statement

Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Revised schedule
Thermal		
Rokhia, U-7, Tripura	21	07/02 (actual)
Neyveli TPS-1, Expansion, U-1&2, Tamil Nadu	210	09/02
	210	12/02
Peddapuram CCGT, ST, Andhra Pradesh	78	08/02
Dabhol CCGT Ph. II, Block-I&II, Maharashtra*	1444	
Hydro		
Nathpa Jhakri, HEP, Himachal Pradesh	6x250	2003-04
Dulhasti HEP, Jammu & Kashmir	3x130	2003-04
Tehri HEP, Uttaranchal	4x250	2002-04
WYC-II, Haryana	2x7.2	2003-04
Sardar Sarovar, Gujarat	6x200 + 5x50	2003-07
Bansagar Tons Ph. II& III, Madhya Pradesh	2x15 + 3x20	2002-03
Bansagar Tons Ph. IV, Madhya Pradesh	2x10	2005-06
Ghatghar PSS, Maharashtra	2x125	2004-05
Srisaillam LB, HEP, Andhra Pradesh	6x150	2002-03
Pykara Ultimate, Tamil Nadu	3x50	2003-04
Balimela Dam Toe, Orissa	2x30	11th Plan
Karbi Langpi, Assam	2x50	2003-04
Baspa-II, Himachal Pradesh	3x100	2003-04
Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh	10x40	2005-07

* held up due to dispute between the Maharashtra State Electricity Board and the Dabhol Power Company.

Note: Projects above a capacity of 25 MW have been included.

[English]

**Additional Track Between
Ahmedabad-Mumbai**

3756. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA :

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey has revealed that there is justification to provide additional track between Ahmedabad and Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on said project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) A survey for construction of 3rd line between Virar and Ahmedabad has been completed. As per the survey report, cost of construction of the project has been assessed as Rs. 1006.73 crore with a rate of return of 7.21%. In view of saturation on this section, it has been decided to augment the line capacity on the route by adopting automatic signalling. However, in phase-I, the work of 3rd line from Surat to Kusumba has been included in the Budget, the work on which is in the planning stage.

[Translation]

Purchasing of Bullet Proof Jackets

3757. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government signed on an agreement for the purchase of bullet proof jackets for the jawans during the last two years and current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to sign an agreement for the purchase of bullet proof jackets in the future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) During the last two years, a Contract for procurement of 6000 Nos. Bullet Proof Jackets was concluded on 21.3.2001 with M/s Tata Advance Materials Ltd., Bangalore. Further orders for supply of additional 16,000 Nos. Bullet Proof Jackets were placed on the aforesaid firm under option clause, on the same rates/terms and conditions vide Addendum No.1 dated 21.3.2001 (for quantity 1000 BPJs) and Addendum No.2 dated 26.11.2001 (for quantity 15000 BPJs).

2. A request for Technical and Commercial Proposals for Light Weight Bullet Proof Jackets was issued on 23.1.2002 to 104 Vendors. A brief notice in this regard was put on Ministry of Defence Web Site also. In all 28 Vendors responded to the "Request for Proposal". Their Technical proposals were opened on 15.3.2002 by a Price Negotiation Committee.

3. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Master General of Ordnance was constituted to evaluate the Technical Proposal of the Vendors. The

Committee after evaluating the Technical proposal has submitted its report to the Ministry of Defence on 3.7.2002.

[English]

Power Projects Based on Gas and Diesel

3758. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power projects based on gas and diesel are being run in the various States including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total quantum of power generated there from;

(c) whether any proposal for power project based on diesel and gas in Madhya Pradesh was sent to the Union Government during the last few years; and

(d) if so, the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The details of power projects based on Gas and Diesel in various states along with electricity generation during April-July, 2002 is given in the enclosed statement. There is no Gas based Project in Madhya Pradesh at present.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to set up Gas based thermal power station in Madhya Pradesh during the 10th Plan. No proposal for Diesel based power plant has been received. However, Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested gas allocation to the 330 MW Guna CCGT from the HBJ pipe line. It was however, not found possible to allocate gas for the project from the HBJ pipeline as the existing allocation being in excess of the availability of gas.

Statement

Details of Power Projects Based on Gas and Diesel in various States

States/Systems and Type of Generation	Monitored Capacity (MW)	Actual Generation (MU) during April-July, 2002
1	2	3
I) Liquid fuel/Gas based/GT/CCGT		
Central Sector		
NTPC		
Faridabad CCGT	430	880

1	2	3
Anta GT	413	853
Auriya GT	652	1360
Dadri GT	817	1544
Kawas GT	644	1142
Gandhar GT	648	981
Kayamkulam GT	350	633
DVC		
Malthon GT	90	5
NEEPCO		
Kathalguri GT	291	327
Agartala GT	84	168
SEB'S/PSU		
D.V.B. GT (Delhi)	282	407
Pragati CCGT(Delhi)	104.6	107
Pampore GT (J&K)	175	0
Ramgarh GT (Raj.)	38.5	36
Dhuvran GT (Guj.)	54.0	0
Utran OLD (Guj.)	39	0
Utran GT (Guj.)	144	243
Hazira CCCP(Guj.)	156.1	238
Uran GT (Mah.)	912	1223
Vij' Swram GT (AP)	272.3	649
B' Bridge GT (TN)	120	130
Narimanam GT (TN)	10	0
Kovikalapal CCGT (TN)	107	243
Karaikal GT (Pondi.)	32.5	85
W. Bengal GT (W.B)	100	0
Namrup GT (Assam)	81.5	131

1	2	3
Lakwa + Mobile(Assam)	141	112
Baramura GT (Tripura)	16.5	7
Rokhia GT (Tripura)	69	66
Pvt. Sector		
Pvt. Utility		
Vatwa GT & ST (Guj.)	100	110
Trombay GT & ST (Mah.)	180	336
I.P.P.		
Hazira IMP Guj.		247
GIPCL I (Guj.)		324
GIPCL II (Guj.)	305	281
Paguthan GT (Guj.)	655	0
Dabhol (Mah.)	740	0
Jegurupadu GT (AP)	235.4	523
Godavari GT (AP)	208	414
Kondapalli CCGT (AP)	350	831
Peddapuram CCGT (AP)	142	279
Tanir Bavi CCGT (Kar.)	220	394
Cochin CCGT (Ker.)	174	41
P' Nallur CCGT (TN)	330.5	716
DLF Assam (Assam)	24.5	45
Total Central	4419.0	7893
Total State	2855.0	3677
Total Pvt. Utility	280.0	446
Total IPP	3384.4	4095
Total GT/CCGT	10938.4	16111
II) DG Set		
State Sector		
Yelahanka DG (Kar.)	120	253
Bramhapuram DG (Ker.)	106.5	51

1	2	3
Kozikode DG (Ker.)	128.8	52
Leimakhong DG (Manipur)	36.0	0
Pvt. IPP		
LVS Power DG (AP)	36.8	2
Bellary DG (Kar.)	25.2	27
Belgaum DG (Kar.)	81.3	151
Kasaragode DG (Ker.)	21.9	48
B' Bridge DG (TN)	200	467
Samalpatti DG (TN)	105.7	241
Samayanallur DG (TN)	106.0	206
Total State	391.3	356
Total IPP	576.9	1142
Total DG	968.2	1498

III) Steam Turbine

D' vran (Guj.)	280	283
C' pur (Assam)	60	0
Total Steam Turbine	340	283

Total Liquid Fuel/Gas Based (i-iii)

Central	4419.0	7893
State	3586.3	4316
Pvt Utility	280.0	446
Pvt. IPP	3961.3	5237

Purchase of Land by IOCL in Southern Parts

3759. SHRI V.VETRISILVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land purchased by Indian Oil Corporation Limited in the country, particularly in Southern States for setting up of petrol pumps and other projects during the last two years, location-wise;

(b) whether any agreements have been made with

the land owners at the time of purchase of land for allotment of petrol pumps or to provide jobs in the projects;

(c) if so, the extent to which the agreements have been fulfilled; and

(d) the estimated land proposed to be purchased by IOCL during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) has purchased land at 586 locations in the country during the last two years for setting up retail outlets and other projects. This includes land purchased at 77 locations in the Southern States.

(b) and (c) The IOC has not entered into any agreement with the land owners for allotment of retail outlet dealerships or to provide jobs in the projects.

(d) The IOC has plans to purchase land at six locations during 2002-2003.

Import of Crude Oil

3760. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of crude oil imported during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans;

(b) the total cost of refining crude oil in the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the total oil exploration in the country to attain self-reliance in Eighth and Ninth Plan period and the target fixed for the Tenth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The total quantity and value of crude oil imported during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan period was as follows:

	Quantity (MMT)*	Value (Rs.Crore)
8th Plan	148.67	61,740
9th Plan	284.91	197,147

*MMT: million metric tonne

(b) The cost of refining per unit crude oil varies from refinery to refinery in the country.

(c) The total crude oil production in the country during the Eighth and Ninth Plan period was 154.54 MMT and 162.97 MMT respectively. The target fixed for crude oil production in the Tenth Plan Period is 165.24 MMT to 169.38 MMT. In addition, during this period ONGC-Videsh Limited (OVL) envisages 5.2 MMT of oil production as equity oil from the Sakhalin-I Project in Russia.

[Translation]

Early Disposal of Cases

3761. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue necessary directions to the Chief Justices of the High Courts to take adequate measures for early disposal of pending cases particularly for providing relief to the victims of road accidents in keeping with the spirit of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Ku-Band Service for North-Eastern States

3762. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to introduce Ku-band service by the Doordarshan in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Ku-band service likely to be functional ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Expansion of TV coverage through transmission in Ku-Band has been included in the 10th Five Year Plan proposals of Doordarshan. Since the Tenth Plan has not been finalized so far, it is not feasible to indicate a definite time frame for implementation of the proposal.

[Translation]

Thermal Power Plants in U.P.

3763. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power stations functioning in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the capacity thereof, location-wise;

(c) the share of power generation in Uttar Pradesh in total generation of power in the country; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to improve the pitiable condition of thermal power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) There are 12 Nos. of Thermal Power Stations (Coal based - 10 and Gas based - 2) including Central Sector Projects functioning in Uttar Pradesh as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Name of TPS	Monitored Capacity (MW) as on 31.7.2002
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A-State Projects

1.	Obra	1482.0
2.	Panki	242.0
3.	H'Ganj	425.0
4.	Paricha	220.0
5.	Anpara	1630.0

B-Central Projects

6.	Singrauli	2000.0
7.	Rihand	1000.0
8.	Unchahar	840.0
9.	Dadri-T	840.0
10.	Tanda	440.0
11.	Auriya-GT	652.0
12.	Dadri-GT	817.0

(c) During April-July, 2002, the share of electricity

generation in Uttar Pradesh excluding Central Projects was 4.4% of the total electricity generation in the country.

(d) Government has identified 20 Nos., of Thermal Units with total capacity of 2017 MW in U.P. for undertaking Life Extension (LE) works based on the Residual Life Assessment (RLA) Studies during the 10th Plan. After carrying out LE work, these Units would be able to give better performance and the useful life of these units extended by 15-20 years. A capacity addition target of 710 MW (Paricha Extn. 210 MW + Anpara C-500 MW) in the State Sector has been fixed in the 10th Five Year Plan.

Inspection Committees

3764. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ten Inspection Committees were constituted to inspect war equipment during 1997 to 2000;

(b) if not, the details of committees constituted for this purpose;

(c) the jurisdiction of each inspection committee; and

(d) the shortcoming pointed out in each inspection report?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A regular inspection procedure exists in the three services for inspection of war equipments during receipt and storage in the various depots of the services. In view of lack of details about the names and locations of the ten Inspection Committees referred to in part (a) of the question, no reply is possible.

(c) and (d) Inspection is conducted of a large number of war equipments. It would not be possible to give the jurisdiction of each inspection committee/officer. These inspections are carried out in formations all over the country and the reports are not available at a central point. The efforts spent in collection of this information may not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

[English]

Integrated Headquarters of Defence

3765. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to rename the Defence Headquarters as the Integrated Headquarters of Defence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In order to remove the erroneous perception that the Armed Forces Headquarters do not participate in policy formulation and are outside the apex Governmental structure, the Government has issued a notification designating Service Headquarters as "Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence comprising of Army Headquarters, Naval Headquarters, Air Headquarters and Defence Staff Headquarters."

Coaching for Sports Persons

3766. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether army is having collaboration for coaching Indian Sports persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of sports persons would be involved in the national stage;

(d) whether next Asian Games and Olympics are likely to be targeted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e) The Government has conceptualized a sports vision for the Indian Army to take part in the forthcoming Asian Games 2002 and Olympics 2004. Accordingly, about 400 Army sports persons are being trained. Army has no collaboration with any country for coaching Indian Sports Persons.

Announcement System Through Inbuilt Speakers

3767. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any step to introduce announcement systems through inbuilt speakers in all the bogies of all classes in all the trains, particularly in long distance trains for advance announcements of time approaching at the station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The facility of announcing approach of a stopping station in advance is available on Rajdhani and Shatabdi express trains only. Railways, however, are in the process of developing public announcement systems for long distance passenger trains.

National Defence Fund

3768. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount deposited in the National Defence Fund upto March 2002 including interest accrued thereupon;

(b) the amount kept utilized, so far head-wise;

(c) whether the remaining amount could be reserved for future utilisation to help families of those defence personnel who sacrificed their lives during earlier wars and extremist attacks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The required information is not available with the Ministry of Defence. The National Defence Fund (NDF) is a non-public fund and is constituted entirely with public contributions and not from any allocation out of the Consolidated Fund of India. The disbursement from the funds are made with the approval of the Executive Committee of the NDF.

Revival of Hindustan Photo Film

3769. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to revive the Hindustan Photo Film Manufacturing Company Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) The case of Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd., Ooty (HPF) is before the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). This Ministry had made efforts in concert with the Operating Agency (ICICI), the Consultant and the management of HPF to convert the Company into a joint venture (JV). A joint venture partner has not been located so far. However, possible options are under consideration.

Increase in Crime Rate due to Retention in Age-limit

3770. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent upon the extension of the age-limit of juveniles to 18 years due to amendment of the Juvenile Justice Act, the crime rate may lead to further rise;

(b) whether according to police figures, 50 cases involving juveniles were reported in 2000 as compared to 44 cases in 1999 in Delhi;

(c) whether during the current year, in just three and half months 35 cases have been reported from only one district and the other eight districts are yet to compile their figures in Delhi; and

(d) if so, whether the Government is planning a legal system to evolve for protecting the victim too by ensuring that the accused is given psychiatric help and is not allowed to frighten the victim?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) No, Sir. According to the information available with the Government, it is not a fact that revision of age limit of Juveniles to 18 years may lead to further rise in the crime rate.

(b) and (c) In the year 1999, 329 cases involving juveniles were reported in the N.C.T. of Delhi whereas in the year 2000 the figures rose to 670 cases. During the current year upto 30.6.2002, 316 cases involving juveniles have been reported.

(d) Provisions already exist under Section 15 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 for counselling a juvenile, who has committed an offence, his participation in group counselling and similar activities, payment of fine by him, his placement under the care of any fit person or fit institution for good behaviour and in certain cases placement of a juvenile under the supervision of a Probation Officer. It further provides that in cases where a juvenile in conflict with law, has not

been of good behaviour, he could be ordered to be sent to a special home.

Material on Communal Harmony

3771. MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE:

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether material on communal harmony following Gujarat carnage has been conceived/prepared;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the arrangement made by press teams with media and co-ordination/collaboration efforts made in this regard; and

(c) the result achieved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. All India Radio and Doordarshan have broadcast a number of programmes with a view to promoting communal harmony. Press Information Bureau has issued a number of articles and features with the same objective and also helped in organizing a Seminar on 'Role of media in communal harmony and peace.' The Song and Drama Division prepared scripts on the theme of National Integration and Communal Harmony for presentation in Gujarat while the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity produced a compendium of the Prime Minister's observations and statements on the subject. Such efforts are helpful in restoring normalcy.

Testing of Imported Missiles

3772. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air Force had imported missiles worth Rs. 3.41 crore as reported in the C&AG Report No.8 of 1999 (Air Force and Navy) on page 10 in para 8 in January, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for not testing the missiles on time; and

(c) the number of missiles still lying in the weaponry of the Air Force giving reasons for imports of such high valued missiles without any use?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The missiles were not tested for about two years as, test facilities required upgradation. Training of Indian technicians was also required. Four missiles are still with IAF in an unserviceable state. These missiles were contracted in 1995 against the anticipated requirement of IAF. Efforts are on to get these missiles repaired.

DRM Office at New Jalpaiguri

3773. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposal to set up a Divisional Railway Manager Office at New Jalpaiguri; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to set up the office at New Jalpaiguri ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for setting up of a Divisional Railway Manager's (DRM) office at New Jalpaiguri under consideration of the Government.

Gas for Power Projects in A.P.

3774. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged to enhance availability of gas for Lanco Kondapalli Power Limited, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in ensuring availability of gas to the above project; and

(c) the time by which gas is likely to be supplied to the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for conversion of 0.63 Million Cubic Meter Per Day (MCMD) of fall back natural gas allocated to Lanco Kondapalli Power Limited, Andhra Pradesh into firm allocation. Allocation of natural gas to various consumers in Andhra Pradesh has been in excess of the availability, therefore, such requests have to be considered keeping in view the total availability of natural gas in the region.

Rural Electrification Development Fund

3775. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a separate rural electrification development fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the fund has been utilized during this year so far and the plan for further utilization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) There is no separate Rural Electrification Development Fund for rural electrification programme. Rural Electrification Schemes are formulated and implemented by the State Governments/State Electricity Boards out of State Plan funds. However, Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is being provided by the Central Government to the States for rural electrification programme.

During 2002-03, the following funds have been allocated as ACA to carry out the rural electrification works:

(i) Under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) - Rs.600 crores.

(ii) Under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) - Rs.2747 crores for all the six components of PMGY including Rural Electrification as Additional Central Assistance. The State Governments have to make interse allocation of funds for rural electrification depending upon their priorities.

(iii) An Outlay of Rs.164 crores has been provided under a new Interest Subsidy Scheme called Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (AREP).

(iv) Funds under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) are also released to the States through NABARD for rural electrification works.

(v) 100% grant is available for providing single light point connections to the rural families living below poverty line. This grant is routed through Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and Rs.100 crores have been provided for the year 2002-03 for Kutir Jyoti Programme.

(vi) REC also supplements the resources of the State Governments and provides financial assistance to the States for augmenting the system Improvement Schemes and Load Intensification.

Procurement of Helicopter

3776. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have concluded any contract with a foreign manufacturer at a total cost of Rs.

894.82 crores for acquisition of nine special purpose helicopters;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have concluded the contract without finalising the qualitative requirements

(d) whether these helicopters have not even entered into the production phase in the manufacturer's country;

(e) if so, the reasons for concluded contract without evaluation and seeing the performance/worthiness of vital system of these helicopters;

(f) whether these helicopters are still unproved and the quoted price for higher than the cost estimated by Navy; and

(g) if so, the officials responsible for negotiating and concluding this contract causing huge financial loss to the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (g) The Government have signed two contracts with a Russian firm for the acquisition of 9 (nine) special purpose helicopters to equip the Navy with the Airborne Early Warning (AEW) capability. These helicopters were evaluated by a Naval Team in 1996 and were found to meet the Naval Staff Qualitative Requirements (NSQRs)

The price and other terms and conditions were negotiated by the duly constituted Price Negotiation Committees (PNGs) before the contracts were signed.

Bifurcation of Eastern Railways

3777. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways will lose more than Rs.3000 crore annually on freight on coal due to split of Eastern Railway;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that about ten thousand posts in Eastern Railways will be abolished due to this split; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Advertisements to Unpopular Newspapers

3778. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advertisements for the posts to be filled through the Union Public Service Commission and other agencies are given to the newspapers which are not popular amongst the masses and the expenditure incurred.

(b) the policy adopted by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The advertisements for the posts to be filled through the Union Public Service Commission and other agencies are released by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) to newspapers on its approved panel keeping in view the publicity requirement, target readership and budgetary provisions. The panel, prepared on the recommendation of a Committee constituted for the purpose, comprises the newspapers that fulfil the criteria laid down for selection of newspapers for release of the advertisements.

[English]

Electricity Regulatory Authorities/Commissions

3779. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electricity Regulatory Authorities/Commissions have been formed in various States;

(b) if so, the dates of their constitutions, terms and

conditions, staff strength, area of operation and months expenditure incurred by them;

(c) whether apart from their regular establishment some of them have engaged consultants;

(d) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(e) the number of times they have revised tariff in each State and regulated power supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Survey of New Rail Line in Rajasthan

3780. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey work for construction of new rail lines covering Sardar Shahr- Hanuman Garh and Churu-Tara Nagar (Northern Railway) and Sikar-Nokha (Western and Northern Railways) has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The surveys for construction of new broad gauge lines covering Sardar Shahr-Hanumangarh, Churu-Taranagar and Sikar-Nokha have since been completed and the details are given as under:

S.No.	Name of Survey	Kms.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crore)	Rate of Return
1.	Gauge conversion of Ratangarh-Sardar Shahr and new line between Sardar Shahr- Hanumangarh	197.9	287.40	(-) 25.88%
2	New B.G. line between Churu and Taranagar	48.1	76.42	(-) 24.33%
3.	New B.G. line between Sikar and Nokha	209.6	430.6	(-) 23.30%

In view of acute constraint of resources and unremunerative nature of the above projects, it was not

considered feasible to take up these works.

*[English]***Outlay for Power Plants during Tenth Plan**

3781. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Plan outlay for power sector had been hiked by 270 per cent to ensure adequate project funding;

(b) if so, whether no power shortages after 2012, the Government have kicked off its first advance exercise to achieve an additional generating capacity of 1,07,000 MW in the 10th Five Year Plan; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The 16th Electric Power Survey of the Central Electricity Authority has estimated that about 1,00,000 MW of additional capacity would be required in order to meet power on demand by 2012. For the 10th Plan, a target of 41,000 MW has been laid down as per details given below:

(figures in MW)

	Hydro	Thermal	Nuclear	Cumulative Capacity
Central Sector	8,742	12,790	1300	22,832
State Sector	4,481	6,676	0	11,157
Private Sector	1,170	5,941	0	7,121
Overall	14,393	25,407	1,300	41,110

In addition to the above, about 3000 MW is expected from renewables.

To support this programme of the Ministry of Power, the Planning Commission has fixed the 10th Plan outlay at Rs.143399 crore. The corresponding 9th Plan outlay was Rs.45591.05 crore.

*[Translation]***Compensation to Displaced Persons of Tehri Dam**

3782. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of families were displaced for the construction of Tehri Dam and rural oustees were to be compensated at certain agreed terms but the compensation was not paid according to the set policy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to honour the commitment;

(c) whether SLAO-II Tehri made fraudulent payment of Rs.34.30 lakh to three non-existing families by manipulating relevant records and the SLAO-II did not render accounts for Rs.6.55 crore claimed to have been paid to the affected families of Old Tehri Town and THDC accepted payment of Rs.24.23 crore claimed to have been paid for compensating landowners without details in support of the payment; and

(d) if so, whether the matter has been enquired and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government of Uttaranchal, who are handling the rehabilitation and resettlement of large number of facilities affected by Tehri Project, have informed that compensation for rural oustees is being paid according to the Rehabilitation Policy.

(c) and (d) According to the Government of Uttaranchal, an FIR was lodged at Police Station, Tehri on 18.09.1997 against Shri Vijay Datt Sharma, Special Land Acquisition Officer (SLAO-II) of the State Government and others for fraudulent payment of Rs.34.30 lakhs in the year 1992. The case is pending in the Court of the District and Sessions Judge, New Tehri. The records pertaining to disbursement of Rs.6.55 crores had been seized by the CBI in 1997 for investigation and are still with them.

As regards acceptance of claims, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) has informed that the Government of Uttar Pradesh while implementing the rehabilitation work before February, 1990 had made payment of Rs.18.53 crores to SLAO-I and Rs.4.55 crores to SLAO-II. The SLAOs have furnished the disbursement details of Rs.9.04 crores and Rs.14.04 crores to the Government of Uttar Pradesh and THDC respectively.

*[English]***Forensic Report about Sabarmati Express at Godhra**

3783. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of Forensic Science Laboratory of Ahmedabad inquiring into the Godhra train carnage of February 27, 2002, has after a simulated experiment of the fire in Railway train coach No. S-6, came to the conclusion that the fire which took the life of 59 passengers including women and children, could be possible only if the inflammable like petrol was dowed from inside the compartment and not is thrown from outside;

(b) if so, the result of the follow up investigations based on the said findings; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) "Policing" being a State Subject, prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains is the Constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP). However, information furnished by the Superintendent of Police, Vadodara indicates that the Forensic Science Laboratory, Ahmedabad has opined that the petrol could have been poured from inside the coach.

Any follow-up action on the report has to be taken by the State Government

Coal Bed Methane in M.P., Rajasthan and West Bengal

3784. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited bids for exploration and production of Coal Bed Methane (C.B.M.) in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the number of bids received and number of C.B.M. blocks awarded;

(c) whether the Government have plan to conduct exploration of C.B.M. in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the first offer of blocks under Coal Bed Methane Policy, seven blocks falling in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan were offered for bidding. The details in this regard are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No.of blocks offered	No. of bids received	No. of blocks awarded
1.	West Bengal	1	5	1
2.	Jharkhand	2	7	2
3.	Madhya Pradesh	3	3	2
4.	Rajasthan	1	1	-

(c) and (d) Identification and offer of CBM blocks from States having CBM potential in the country, including Tamil Nadu, is an ongoing process.

[Translation]

Action against Persons Occupying Reserved Seats

3785. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether action is not being taken against the persons occupying reserved seats;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered during the last three years;

(c) the role of T.T.I. in this regard and whether the T.T.I. has to face many difficulties in carrying out his duty;

(d) whether the assistance of RPF constables is given to T.T.I. and the offenders will be filled heavily after being apprehended on the charge of seat grabbing; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. Action is taken against persons unauthorisedly occupying reserved seats/berths.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) to (e) Instructions exist for detaining unauthorised persons from reserved coaches. However, due to difficult law and order situation in some parts of the country, it is, sometimes, not possible to evict unauthorised passengers. In addition, apart from ticket checking activities, the Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) are also entrusted with various other on-board activities. Though the Railway Protection Force (RPF) is associated in the various checks yet it is not possible to provide RPF assistance to every TTE on account of manpower constraints.

**Undermeasuring by Petrol Pumps
and Kerosene Dealers**

3786. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered for undermeasuring and adulteration at Kerosene and petrol pumps outlets during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases wherein accusations were levelled and the number of people against whom action has been taken;

(c) whether these kinds of irregularities are still being committed in the absence of proper action; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Oil Companies have detected the following number of cases of undermeasuring (short delivery) and adulteration at Kerosene and petrol pumps during the last three years:

Year	No. of Cases	
	Adulteration	Short delivery
1999-2000	363	230
2000-2001	290	254
2001-2002	341	276

(b) In all the cases [mentioned at (a) above] action has been taken against the dealers as per Marketing Discipline Guidelines/or Dealership Agreement.

(c) and (d) Whenever any case of adulteration & short delivery is established, action is taken against the erring dealer as per Marketing Discipline Guidelines/or Dealership Agreement, which ranges from monetary penalty and suspension of sales and supplies to termination of the dealership.

[English]

Manufacturing of HMT Tractors

3787. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the profit and loss of Hindustan Machine Tools (H.M.T. Tractor Division) during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of tractors alongwith H.P. manufactured and cost of manufacturing during the last three years, year-wise and till date;

(c) whether any action plan has been prepared to increase the production of tractors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the staff/employees have been retrenched due to heavy losses in H.M. T. Tractor Division; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken/to be taken to protect the interest of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) The profit & loss of Hindustan Machine Tools (H.M.T. Tractor Division) for the last three years are as under:-

(Rupees in lakhs)			
	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
Net profit	185	527	791

(b) Numbers and approximate cost of manufacturing of tractors of various capacity, manufactured in last 3 years is as under:-

Model	H.P.	2001-02		2000-01		1999-2000	
		No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost
2522	25	1067	Approx. 1.65 to 3.40 (Rs. in lakh)	1410	Approx. 1.55 to 3.10 (Rs. in lakh)	2513	Approx. 1.50 to 2.30 (Rs. in lakh)
3022	30	146		533		1213	
3522	35	5660		7328		8253	
4511	45	213		930		1410	
4922	49	1216		292		-	
5911	58	1450		2901		2946	
7511	75	48		65		-	
Total		9800		13459		16335	

(c) and (d) Yes, the Company has planned to increase the production of tractors to 14,000 tractors during 2002-03.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of answer (a) above.

Setting up of Army Hospitals

3788. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up army hospitals in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The existing hospitals are sufficient to meet the requirements of the Service clientele.

[Translation]

Encroachment on Railway Land in Delhi

3789. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Railway land in Delhi especially from Najafgarh drain (Rampura) to Azadpur, Subzi Mandi - New Azadpur, Daya Basti - Patel Nagar etc. is under the unauthorised occupation of anti-social elements/slum dwellers which caused obstructions in the speed of super fast trains as also reported in *The Hindu* dated June 13, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-vacation of the said land so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to get the said lands vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Some of the railway land in Delhi including some land between Najafgarh Drain in Rampura to Azadpur, Subzi Mandi - New Azadpur, Daya Basti - Patel Nagar etc. is under unauthorised occupation of encroachers.

There are encroachments at

i) Rampura Cabin near Level Crossing
No.12 - 541 Nos.

ii) Shahid Sukhdev Nagar (Km.26/2 - 25/3) -
2088 Nos., and

- iii) Chandrasekhar Azad Colony (Km.27/1 - 26/3)-
3797 Nos. Total 6426 Nos.

Railways have from time to time taken steps to remove the encroachers. Eviction process has been initiated six months back and it is a continuous process.

[English]

Subsidy on LPG/Kerosene

3790. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided a flat rate of subsidy on LPG and kerosene;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the consumers are likely to be benefited from this subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGULI): (a) to (c) As per the Government decision on dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), domestic LPG and PDS kerosene will continue to be subsidised post APM. The subsidy on these products will be on specified flat rate basis from 1st April 2002 and retail price will vary as per the price changes in the international market. The flat rates of subsidy have not been assessed as yet.

Conversion into Freehold

3791. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of applications have been received by the Agra Cantonment Board for conversion of land/properties into Freehold during the last three years and till date;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Agra Cantonment Board have received 75 applications for conversion of land/properties into freehold during the last three years and the same are under various stages of processing.

Ban on Transfer of Elements

3792. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a ban on transfer of elements in Sr. Scale and above from the Zonal Railways to Railway Board have been implemented except in Security Directorate;
- (b) whether there is a proposal to bring the element of DIG from the Zonal Railways to Railway Board even after the Godhra Carnage;
- (c) the number of elements of Sr. Scale and above belonging to RPF/RPSF is under operation of Railway Board causing shortage of officers in the Zonal Railways; and
- (d) the time by which these elements would be released for the officers of RPF/RPSF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Appointments of Blinds

3793. SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of appointments of blinds (disabled) made on the post of Announcer under the Northern Railways during the last three years, till date;
- (b) whether some blinds after being appointed on the post of Announcer are being given pay scale of the lower post instead of the basic pay scale fixed for the post of Announcer;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to remove the disparity; and
- (e) the facilities provided to the blind employees during the 'Year of Disabled' along with the number of blind employees on the post of Announcer have been given promotion during that year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Doubling of Rail Lines

3794. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the target set for doubling of rail lines during the Ninth Five Year Plan has not been achieved;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the doubling work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Desired progress could not be achieved due to constraint of resources, slow progress of works, contractual failure, etc. During the Tenth Five Year Plan, the target for doubling work has been proposed in consonance with the availability of resources.

[English]

Dairy Farms

3795. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any dairy farms fully maintained by the Defence in the country for dairy needs of the defence forces; and
- (b) if so, the quantum of output of various dairy products?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) There are 51 dairy farms fully maintained by Ministry of Defence to meet dairy needs of the defence forces. The quantum of yearly output of various dairy products at these farms is as under:

Sl. No.	Item	Annual Production
1.	Milk	6,49,41,146 Litres
2.	Butter	2,94,788 kilograms
3.	Paneer	24,590 kilograms
4.	Cream	8,470 kilograms

Restructure of SEBs

3796. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to restructure the State Electricity Boards all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government intend to invite foreign collaboration for this project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to fund the project of restructuring of SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE : MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are under the administrative control of the State Governments. The decision to restructure the SEBs, therefore, rests with the State Governments. The Government of India has however been encouraging States to undertake reforms so as to improve the health of the power sector. A conference of Chief Ministers/Power Ministers was organized in March 2001 wherein it was resolved to depoliticise power sector reforms and speed up their implementation. It was also recognized that the real challenge of reforms lies in distribution sector and that commercial viability has to be achieved in distribution through any or all of the following :

- Creating Profit Centres with full accountability
- Handing over of local distribution to Panchayats/ Local Bodies/Franchisees/Users Associations, wherever necessary
- Privatisation of distribution
- Or any other means.

Several States (Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi) have passed their own Reform Laws and unbundled their SEBs.

The Electricity Bill, 2001, which is presently under consideration of the Standing Committee on Energy also gives flexibility to States regarding reforms.

The Government of India has been signing Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with States reflecting the joint commitment of the Centre and the States to undertake reforms in a time bound manner. These require the States to set up SERCs, undertake energy audit through full metering, reduce transmission and distribution losses and attain commercial viability. In reciprocation to the efforts of the States to achieve agreed milestones, the Central Government has committed assistance including allocation of additional power from

unallocated share from Central Generating Stations, funds under specific programmes/schemes etc. The MoUs are now being flashed out into MoAs with clearer and more specific milestones as the reform programme in the State is acquiring concrete shape. 22 States have been covered by this exercise till now.

The Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) is designed to finance specific projects in identified distribution circles for a quick turn around and creation of centres of excellence. Initially, 63 circles have been taken up for development as centres of excellence on the basis of well designed Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). The programme is being extended to cover concentrated loads and towns with population of over 1 lakh where work on preparing DPRs has been initiated. The base line data of DPRs is crucial for evaluating the results of the programme which is aimed at improving quality of supply as well as controlling theft and improving the financial health of the sector. This programme also includes an incentive scheme aiming at actual cash loss reduction by SEBs/Utilities. Under this scheme, there is provision for grants by the Ministry of Power to SEBs/Utilities for actual loss reduction. A provision of Rs.3500 crores has been made for the year 2002-2003 under this programme. For the purpose of funding the States have been categorised as Special and Non Special categories. For special categories State 90% grant and 10% loan has been envisaged whereas for non-special category 25% grant and 25% of loan has been envisaged under this programme and the remaining 50% will be provided by the financial institutions like PFC, REC.

Government of India has recently approved a scheme for securitisation of dues owed by the State Electricity Board to CPSUs. The scheme provides that 60% of the interest/surcharge on the delayed payments as on 30.9.2001 would be waived off and the rest of the dues would be securitised through tax-free bonds issued by the respective State Governments. There would also be incentives to the States for timely payment of current dues. Default in making current payments shall attract, inter alia suspension of funds under APDRP. With the Securitisation of past dues by the State Government and the creation of the discipline of full payment for current supplies, the raising of the requisite resources from the market for the ambitious capacity addition programme of the CPSUs would become feasible. The State Governments can also use this to give their power utilities clean balance sheets to enable them to fully access markets for funds to finance their investment programmes.

Besides, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other multilateral donor agencies and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) have been providing financial assistance to some of the States to undertake power sector reforms.

Modernisation of Container Corporation of India Ltd.

3797. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to modernize Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR);
- (b) if so, the details of the various programmes drawn up for the modernization of CONCOR; and
- (c) the amount of investment involved in the modernization programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) has drawn up the following programmes for its modernization:

- (1) Terminal Development works
- (2) Rolling stock
- (3) Container acquisition
- (4) Information Technology and
- (5) Handling equipments, etc.

(c) Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) has assessed that its modernization programme would require an investment of Rs.1400 crores till the Financial Year 2006.

Dirty Linen Supplied on Trains

3798. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether dirty Linen is being supplied to the passengers in some trains particularly in South Central Railways;
- (b) whether railway authorities have inspected the same; and
- (c) if so, the action initiated against the erring staff in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. However, some complaints of improper washing of linen provided in trains on South Central Railway have come to notice.

(b) Yes, Sir. Regular and surprise checks are conducted by officers and inspectors to ensure quality and quantity of linen as well as standards of washing.

(c) Erring contractors have been warned and fined. Disciplinary action has been taken against the Railway staff for their slack supervision.

Entrance of Kanjur Marg East

3799. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to completion of fifth and sixth Railway lines between Kurla and Thane the entrance of Kanjur Marg East will be closed down;

(b) whether this problem has been brought to the notice of Railway officials by the local Member of Parliament; and

(c) If so, the action taken by the Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. The existing Foot Over Bridge through which there is entry from East side to Kanjur Marg station is being extended and the entry to Kanjur Marg station from East side will continue through the extended Foot Over Bridge.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Revival of R.I.C.

3800. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Rehabilitation Industries Corporation (RIC) are still working after closing order circulated by the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether the employees are capable to run this unit;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are ready to give lease to the employees; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) N.A.

(c) Closure has been declared in all the units of RIC with effect from 16th January 2001.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

Development Work at Cantonment Areas

3801. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the development work done in the Nasirabad and Ajmer cantonments along with the funds spent on them separately during each of the last three years;

(b) whether complaints of irregularities in the spending of the funds have been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken thereon;

(e) the future development schemes of Nasirabad and Ajmer cantonment areas;

(f) whether several incidents of encroachment have taken place in these cantonment areas;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken by the officers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Development works like drains, pavement, roads, water supply, miscellaneous public improvements, etc., were undertaken in Nasirabad and Ajmer during last 3 years. Expenditure on these works was as under:

Year	Nasirabad	Ajmer
1999-2000	96,66,111/-	21,16,267/-
2000-2001	1,04,15,844/-	33,65,621/-
2001-2002	62,23,883/-	25,10,175/-
Total	2,63,05,838/-	79,92,063/-

(b) to (d) An elected member of Nasirabad Cantonment has complained regarding work carried out in respect of buildings, pavements etc. The matter is under scrutiny of CBI.

(e) Three development schemes namely Transport

Nagar, Stadium, Community Hall, are under consideration for Nasirabad Cantonment Board, and 3 schemes namely Community Hall, Water Supply Project and Sewage Disposal System for Ajmer Cantonment Board are under consideration.

(f) to (h) During last 3 years, no encroachments have been noticed in Ajmer Cantonment and 281 cases of encroachments have been noticed in Nasirabad Cantonment. The encroachments are mostly in the form of projection, platform etc. Action has been taken/initiated in respect of all such cases by the Cantonment administration under the Cantonments Act and Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

IOCL and HPCL, Madhya Pradesh

3802. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH BARWALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received against the functioning of Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of representations out of them are about the irregularities committed in the appointment of contractors pertaining to 'Coco' and 'Jubilee' pumps and in the purchase of land, separately; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The number of complaints received against appointment of labour contractors for COCO retail outlets and Jubilee Retail Outlets and the land purchased for these retail outlets by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) and the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPC) is given below:

Number of complaints received against

	Appointment of labour contractors	Purchase of land
IOC	01	05
HPC	04	01

The complaints received from time to time by the Oil Companies are investigated and appropriate action is taken in case the alleged irregularity is proved.

Retrenchment of U.R.C. Workers

3803. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the civilian workers working in the unit run canteens managed by an infantry division and 35 infantry brigade were retrenched from service without any prior notice;

(b) whether such workers in these units had challenged the orders of their removal from service in the Central Administrative Tribunal (Main Branch), New Delhi and Mumbai and CAT had repealed these orders and issued orders for their reinstatement in service;

(c) whether these decisions of CAT were not implemented and contempt of court petition against the concerned Defence Officers has been filed in the CAT;

(d) if so, the reasons for not implementing the decision of CAT; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interests of the workers of these unit run canteens?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No employee of the Unit Run Canteen of 35 Infantry Brigade have been retrenched. However, services of seven employees of the Pine Canteen, Meerut under Head Quarters 9 Infantry Division have been terminated by the appointing authority.

(b) The terminated employees of Pine Canteen challenged the termination of their services in the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Delhi and the CAT stayed the termination order. There is no case in this regard before CAT, Mumbai.

(c) and (d) The decision of CAT, Delhi has been implemented and the terminated employees have been reinstated. The re-instated employees however reported for duty for only one day and later failed to report for work. In the meantime, a Contempt Petition was filed in CAT, Delhi by these employees of Pine Canteen, Meerut. The CAT Delhi on 29th July 2002 has disposed off the contempt petition with directions that the employees should report for duty on 31st July 2002 which has been complied with.

(e) In order to protect the interests of the employees of Unit Run Canteens, Government have issued detailed 'Terms and Conditions of Service of Unit Run Canteen Employees' on 14th September 2001.

Misuse of LPG Cylinders at Commercial Places

3804. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic LPG cylinders are frequently used at commercial places in connivance with the dealers of various oil companies; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the oil companies to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are under strict instructions to ensure that domestic cylinders are not used for commercial purpose. To check the same, the field officers carry out periodic refill audits besides making surprise visit to the commercial premises. In the event of diversion, the distributors are penalised in accordance with Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) / LPG Control Order.

[English]

LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps in J&K

3805. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons to whom petrol pumps, kerosene depots and LPG agencies sanctioned in Jammu & Kashmir during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that not a single petrol pump or LPG agency has been allotted in favour of any member of Scheduled Tribes, particularly Gujjars and Bakerwals; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) During the last three years, i.e., 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, 30 Retail Outlet dealerships, 20 LPG distributorships and 5 SKO-LDO dealerships were allotted in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 25% reservation is provided to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the allotment of dealerships/

distributorships of petroleum products. The 25% reservation is implemented in such a way that these two communities get their share in proportion to their population in that State/Union Territory. In the reservation roster for the State of Jammu & Kashmir, there is no point reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

Outstanding Dues Against SEBs

3806. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is to recover a huge outstanding dues from State Electricity Boards and Power Houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Badarpur Thermal Power Station owe to the Railways crores of rupees;

(d) if so, the amount due from the BTP Station and the time by when the amount is due; and

(e) the steps taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement containing the details of outstanding dues against State Electricity Boards (SEBs), Power Houses (PHs) and other Central Utilities is attached. The main reason for the high level of outstanding amount is that the clearance of outstanding dues by some of the SEBs/PHs fell significantly short of the accretions against them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An amount of Rs. 972.22 crore is outstanding at the end of May' 2002 against Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS). Accumulation of outstandings started since 1992. The outstandings as shown in the statement *ibid* are already due for payment.

(e) The steps taken to recover the amount from SEBs/PHs are as under:

(i) The matter of recovery of outstanding dues from SEBs/PHs including BTPS is followed up with the Ministry of Power, Ministry of Finance and with the Chief Ministers of various States.

(ii) The outstanding dues from SEBs/PHs as on 31/12/1996 are also being adjusted from the Central Plan Assistance of the State Governments subject to the limits prescribed by Ministry of Finance.

- (iii) The outstanding dues from SEBs/PHs to the Railways are being adjusted against traction bills, wherever feasible.
- (iv) Ministry of Power has also given clear instructions to BTPS to ensure full payment of current freight dues to Railways.

Statement

The position as on 31.05.2002 is as under:

		(Rs. In Crore)
Name of State Electricity Board/ Power Houses	Outstanding dues as on 31.05.2002	
1. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	1.88	
2. Assam State Electricity Board	0.18	
3. Bihar State Electricity Board	0.55	
4. Delhi Vidyut Board	166.23	
5. Gujarat State Electricity Board	3.83	
6. Haryana State Electricity Board	3.23	
7. Karnataka State Electricity Board	0.46	
8. Maharashtra State Electricity Board	14.96	
9. Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board	14.64	
10. Punjab State Electricity Board	392.82	
11. Rajasthan State Electricity Board	111.83	
12. Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	0.88	
13. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	39.70	
14. West Bengal State Electricity Board	29.72	
15. Badarpur Thermal Power Station	972.22	
16. National Thermal Power Corporation	69.93	
17. Damodar Valley Corporation	7.23	
18. Private Power House Sabarmati	0.51	
Total	1830.80	

[Translation]

Quota for Allotment of LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps

3807. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ban on discretionary quota with regard to LPG agencies and Petrol Pumps has been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the categories under which this discretionary quota is applicable;

(c) whether social workers and post graduate unemployed persons are also included in the discretionary quota;

(d) the number of Petrol Pumps and LPG agencies allocated so far under the discretionary quota; and

(e) the categories to which the said allotments have been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Government have revived the discretionary quota of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships/SKO-LDO dealerships for allotment on genuine compassionate grounds to deserving persons in the following two categories:

(i) Dependants of Defence/ Paramilitary /Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated;

(ii) Dependants of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

(d) and (e) No allotment under the discretionary quota has been made by the Government so far.

[English]

Oil Reserves in Cauvery Basin

3808. SHRI K.K KALIAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to find out oil reserves in the Cauvery basin of Erode District of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the funds earmarked to explore the oil reserves in that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir, since the Erode District in the State of Tamil Nadu fall in metamorphic complex area, which is not considered prospective for hydrocarbons.

(b) Does not arise.

Projects under Joint Venture Company in Karnataka

3809. SHRI SHASHI KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the project taken up by the K-RIDE company has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The four projects identified to be taken up under K-RIDE are already sanctioned and on-going projects. The details of the progress of all these four projects are as under:

	Latest Anticipated Cost	Outlay expected to end of 2001-02	Budget Outlay for 2002-03	Status
(Rupees in Crores)				
1	2	3	4	5
Hubli-Ankola New Line	997.58	14.65	20.00	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans have been submitted to the State Government for part length. Earthwork has been completed in the 1.8 Km length where no land acquisition is involved. Work on rest of the section will be taken up once land is made available. Tenders have been processed for earthwork and minor bridges.
Solapur-Gadag Gauge Conversion	262.05	136.61	20.00	The work is being done in phases. Solapur-Hotgi (16 Km) and Hotgi to Bijapur (94 Km) has been completed. Work is in progress on rest of section from Bijapur to Gadag. Funding through K-RIDES is being tried with a view to expedite early completion of this work.
Hassan-Mangalore Gauge Conversion	325.93	168.66	45.00	Arsikere-Hassan-Sakleshpur has been completed. Work is in progress in balance length. Mangalore-Kabakaputtur (40 Km) is targeted for completion during 2002-03. Funding is being tried through K-RIDE to expedite completion.

1	2	3	4	5
Guntakal-Hospet Doubling	159.10	25.13	38.35	Final location survey has been completed. Tenders for earthwork and bridges between Hospet and Bellary have been processed.

The completion of these projects would depend on generation of resources by the Project Development Company.

Waived Off Losses

3810. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to write off DVB losses as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 20, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the losses of other SEBs would also be waived off; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The Government of India has approved the scheme of "One Time Settlement" of outstanding dues payable by the SEBs to the eight Central Public Sector Undertakings, namely, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC), Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPC), Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC), North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries, and the Railways. One of the salient features of the scheme is waiving off 60% of the interest/surcharge on the delayed payments as on 30.09.2001. The rest of the dues amounting to the full principal amount and 40% of the interest/surcharge would be securitised through 15 years tax-free 8.5% bonds issued by the respective State Governments.

This scheme is applicable to all State Electricity Boards including Delhi Vidyut Board.

Deplorable Infrastructure of Kokrajhar Air Building

3811. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the deplorable building infrastructure of worst quality and standard which was constructed by a Central Government agency for housing the AIR, Korajhar Station; and

(b) if so, the details about the construction work of the same building along with total amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the building work of AIR, Kokrajhar was executed as per standard CPWD specification. The building was completed in the year 1991 at an overall cost of the Rs. 186.62 lakhs.

The necessary repair work of the building has been carried out and remaining repair work is also being attended to.

Passenger Force Train to Reverse After Man Falls Off

3812. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Passengers force train to reverse after man falls off, appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 10, 2002;

(b) if so, whether Mussoorie Express was hijacked and passengers force the driver to move the train back to pick up one of their fellow;

(c) if so, whether the Chain pulling system in the train was not working at that time;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The train was hijacked in the technical sense. On 9.7.2002, at about 0345 hours, about 100 passengers of 4042 Dn Mussoorie Express entered the office of the ASM, Mandi Dhanaura and asked him to back the train to Bagarpur

to pick up one of their co-passengers who had fallen down from the train. As the train crew resisted their demand, they manhandled and forced them to take the train back. The route was set and the train was taken back at a slow speed. The passenger in question was picked up from Chandpursiau. In this connection, 17 persons were arrested and a case vide Crime No.NIL/2002 u/s 145, 146, 153, 174 Railways Act, 147, 332, 504, 506, 427 IPC and 7 Criminal Law Amendment Act was registered against them by GRP/Gajraula. As regards the Alarm Chain system, it is informed that it was checked at Hapur and found in working condition. Railway employees in-charge of the Stations already have instructions to inform the Police authorities about such incidents.

Development of Golf Course

3813. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air Head Quarter developed a Golf Course inside the explosive area at an Air Stores Park in violation of regulations and spent Rs. 47.98 lakh for the safety of the explosive sheds as brought out by the CAG in its Report No.8 of 2002 (Air Force and Navy) on page 9 in para 7;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action propose to be taken by the government against the erring officials for constructing golf course inside the explosive area of the Park against safety norms?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. However, Air Force has developed a sports complex on an abandoned airstrip, which includes facilities for golf also.

(b) to (d) Since there has been no violation of regulations, enquiry and consequent action do not arise.

[Translation]

Personal Story in Weather News on Doordarshan

3814. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Msusam Samachar Rok Apne Bhai ke Restaurant ki Story Dikha Di' appearing in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated June 25, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken against the erring officials;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such events in future; and

(d) the guidelines laid down for showing the main news-items of the news papers on Doordarshan ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Programme matters of Doordarshan come under the purview of Prasar Bharati, which is an autonomous statutory Corporation. The Government does not interfere in such matters. Prasar Bharati has informed that the said story had been received through a news agency and had been covered by other T.V. channels, before Doordarshan news had telecast it. Prasar Bharati has further informed that the weather bulletin could not be telecast on 23rd June, 2002 because of heavy news fall. The weather bulletin is generally included in the news bulletin but some times it is dropped because of news fall and time constraint. News bulletins are monitored by the Supervisory Officer.

(d) Prasar Bharati has informed that there are no specific guidelines for showing the main news items of the newspapers on Doordarshan. Front page headline story of various regional newspapers are included, subject to availability of time, in the morning bulletins every day.

Facility of Chair Car in August Kranti Rajdhani Express

3815. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facility of Chair-car in August Kranti Rajdhani Express (New Delhi- Mumbai) was available earlier;

(b) whether this facility has been withdrawn;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received requests/proposals to restore this facility in the said train;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the action taken/propose to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of over-night travel and long hours of journey, there were frequent complaints from passengers of discomfort in AC Chair Car coaches. Railways started production of AC 3 Tier coaches in which nearly same number of berths were available as the number of seats in the Chair Car thereby providing better comfort to the travelling passengers.

(d) to (f) Some representations including from Shri Ramdas Athawale, MP and Dr. A. K. Patel, MP have been received. These have been examined but found neither feasible nor desirable and there is no proposal for restoring Chair-car facility in 2953/2954 New Delhi- Mumbai August Kranti Rajdhani Express, at present.

[English]

Directives for Accountal of Application Fee

3816. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board's failure to issue directives for accountal of application fees for recruitment to RPF/RPSF resulted in losses of Rs.2.34 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps envisaged to prevent recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Adequate instructions were already in existence for proper Accountal of Application fee for recruitment of RPF/RPSF personnel. The procedure has been further streamlined and fresh directive has been issued in May, 2001.

Request of State Government of Andhra Pradesh

3817. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a request to the Union Government to issue an irrevocable authorization to pay such amounts to the Power Finance Corporation as they have paid to CMEC on account of APGENCO's default in monthly payments; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government on the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An agreement has been concluded between Ministry of Finance/Government of India and Government of Andhra Pradesh on 1.7.2002, which stipulates that in case of any failure on the part of APGENCO to honour its commitments and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) makes the corresponding payments to CMEC in accordance with Deferred Payment Guarantee provided by them, Ministry of Finance undertakes to pay PFC, promptly on demand, such amount of default payment made by PFC from out of Normal Central Assistance to the State from Central Governments amounts covering both interest and instalments, subject to the condition that the payment in any one month does not exceed the ceiling of Rs.50 crores.

Failure of Media

3818. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing media establishment are failed to counter the anti-government propaganda;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting disseminates information related to the policies, programmes and achievements of various Ministries and Departments of the Government through its various Media Units. These Units aim at creating awareness among the people of the welfare schemes and the programmes launched by the Government so as to involve them in the development process. Keeping this in view, special campaigns are launched from time to time on various social issues. The inter-personal media such as Directorate of Field Publicity and Song & Drama Division operate at grass root level. They interact with people and correct the mis-information that they might be having about the themes/issues of the publicity campaign.

In so far as the electronic media is concerned, Prasar Bharati - the Public Broadcaster - is an autonomous Corporation.

Linking with Private Ports

3819. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give priority to link the private ports with the rails;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the private ports proposed to be linked with rail lines; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Ministry of Railways propose to strengthen Rail linkages to all major ports including major private ports.

(b) to (e) In case of Pipavav port, a Joint venture company named Pipavav Rail Corporation Limited, with equal equity partnership between the Ministry of Railways and Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited has been incorporated. This company executes Surendranagar - Pipavav Broad Gauge link project. The 270 kms long line is expected to cost Rs. 373 crores as per the latest estimation, which includes interest during construction, contingency and preoperative expenditure.

In case of Mundra port, the entire 54 km. line between Adipur to Mundra has already been constructed by Gujarat Adani Port Limited at their own cost and this line has already become operational.

Investment sought by Railways from State Governments

3820. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways recently have asked the State Governments to invest with the Railways in further improving the infrastructure and amenities for passengers; and

(b) if so, the response received from the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways has framed some policy guidelines, which aim to involve State Governments, local bodies and other project beneficiaries such as ports, industries, etc. in the creation and early completion of Rail infrastructure. These guidelines have been communicated to all State Governments.

After despatch of the above communication, the State Governments of Jharkhand and Karnataka have come forward for execution of certain projects on cost sharing basis. Government of Gujarat has also shown interest in execution of Rail projects through SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) route.

Encroachment of Defence Land

3821. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether slum dwellers of Delhi Cantonment occupying Defence land were evicted and rehabilitated at some alternative site in Delhi during 1993 to 1995;

(b) if so, the policy of the Government for rehabilitation of slum dwellers in such cases; and

(c) whether the cost is met by the Union Government or shared with the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) 115 Jhuggi Jhonpri dwellers were evicted from the defence owned land in Delhi Cantt during the year 1993-95 and a sum of Rs. 33.35 lakh was paid to the Municipal Corporation (MCD) of Delhi as an assistance towards the rehabilitation of 115 persons evicted.

2. While there is no policy of Ministry of Defence for rehabilitation of slum dwellers, as per the scheme evolved by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in 1990, the Question of resettlements of the J.J. Dwellers is to be resolved in the first instance in consultation with M.C.D. Delhi prior to action for eviction. The above policy was followed by the Ministry of Defence in Delhi Cantonment once during 1993-95 as stated above.

3. For the J.J. dwellings existed prior to 31.01.1990, the cost of the Rehabilitation is required to be shared as per the funding pattern provided in the policy evolved by the Government N.C.T. of Delhi in 1990.

[Translation]

Rail-Tel Scheme Between Ahmedabad and Vadodara

3822. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Tel Corporation and Container Corporation of India have prepared a scheme to provide multifarious facilities between Ahmedabad - Vadodara;

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme;

(c) whether Rail Tel Corporation is likely to contact IRCON International and Indian Railway Finance Corporation to participate after an agreement is signed with the Ministry of Railways;

(d) if so, the type of participation so sought; and

(e) the time by which Rail Tel Corporation is likely to implement its scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, Rail Tel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL) will create a nationwide broad band Telecom and multimedia network by laying Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along Railway track and provide modem communication system. The proposed network covers Ahmedabad-Vadodara section also.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Railways' Public Sector Undertakings namely Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), IRCON International Limited (IRCON) and Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) have been directed for equity participation in RCIL to the extent of Rs.100 crore, Rs.25 crore and Rs.25 crore respectively.

(e) Optical Fibre link on Ahmedabad - Vadodara sector has already been completed. The work on remaining envisaged network of Rail Tel is in progress and the portion of the network connecting 4 Metros, namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata and 4 Mini-Metros, namely Ahmedabad, Pune, Secunderabad and Bangalore is likely to be completed during 2002-03.

[English]

Dynamic Policy of Railways to Fill up Vacant Seats

3823. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have observed the various innovative marketing strategies adopted by the airlines and other travel systems to fill vacant seats;

(b) if so, the steps, the railways have taken to evolve and implement a dynamic policy to fill up vacant seats in the medium haul journeys;

(c) whether the difficulty being face in buying tickets is also one factor for the middle class travelling public turning to tourist buses and other forms of road transport;

(d) if so, the way by which the railway propose to make purchase of tickets an easy task; and

(e) the impediments involving such a policy to attract the travelling public to use the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Following steps have been taken by the Railways to fill up the vacant seats and to make the purchase of tickets easier for the general public:-

- i. To fill up vacant seats during lean period, the details showing availability of accommodation in the trains is published by the Railways in newspapers, website, etc.
- ii. For reserved tickets, 750 computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) locations have been opened as on 31.7.2002, from where passengers can book seats/berths in any train in any class on first come first served basis,
- iii. About 1400 Self Printing Ticket Machines (SPTMs) have been provided at around 300 locations for purchase of unreserved tickets.
- iv. Additional counters are opened to clear extra rush wherever necessary and feasible.
- v. City Booking Agencies and Out Agencies have also been opened at various locations.
- vi. For the convenience of those passengers, who do not want to go to reservation offices for purchasing ticket, around 700 Rail Traveller's Service Agents (RTSAs) have been appointed all over the country who have been authorized to purchase the tickets on behalf of passengers by standing in queue, like a normal passenger and after realizing prescribed service charges from them.
- vii. Issue of reserved tickets through Internet has been started in Delhi area.

Land Purchased

3824. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have purchased or plan to purchase land to execute the projects pertaining to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the area of land purchased or to be purchased

and the amount incurred or likely to be incurred on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry has not purchased any land for execution of non-conventional energy projects. The Non-Conventional Energy Programmes of the Ministry are implemented through State Government Nodal Agencies, Private and Public Enterprises, Institutions, NGOs etc. who procure land directly, if required for execution of non-conventional energy projects in the country.

Construction of ROB/RUB

3825. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA:

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N.SINGH:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals sent by various State Governments for construction of road over bridges/under bridges during the last three years, zone/State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) the details of new/on-going and pending ROB/

RUB projects in the country along with the present status thereof, zone/State-wise;

(d) the amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred on these projects so far; and

(e) the target set for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) Railways undertake construction of ROB/RUBs in lieu of existing level crossings on cost sharing basis or on deposit terms/proposals for which are sponsored by State Govt. duly fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites required under extant rules. Level crossings having a traffic density of one lakh or more Train Vehicle Units (TVU - a unit obtained by multiplying the number of road vehicles with the number of trains passing over the level crossing in 24 hours) are considered for replacement by ROB/RUBs on cost sharing basis whereas level crossings with lesser traffic density are replaced on deposit terms i.e. at the cost of sponsoring Authority. At present, there are 343 number of cost sharing works on Indian Railways at various stages of planning and execution. The details regarding amount sanctioned and expenditure is maintained Railway-wise and not State-wise. The details of works sanctioned and expenditure incurred during the three years Railway-wise is given in the enclosed statement-I and status of ROB/RUBs State-wise given in the enclosed statement-II. No firm proposal sponsored by State Govts was pending for sanction at the time of Works Programme 2002-03.

(e) Road over/under bridges are jointly constructed by Railway and State Govt. Railway construct bridge proper (portion over the track) and approaches are constructed by State Govt. Railway will complete its portion of work before or alongwith the construction of approaches by the State Govt.

Statement-I

S.No.	Railway	No of proposals of ROB/RUBs Received/Sanctioned			Total No. of On-going works	Fund Allocation (in thousands Rs.)			Expenditure Incurred (in thousand Rs.)		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Central	2	6	0	22	51991	57527	251055	31608	40400	4800
2	Eastern	13	8	14	48	95035	133001	321194	63975	110300	55500
3	Northern	2	1	4	30	85047	242006	358604	71187	198300	17500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	North Eastern	1	1	0	9	46150	69000	102000	46460	46700	2000
5	Northeast Frontier	2	0	1	6	1510	40614	68790	0	17000	1200
6	South ern	68	8	8	127	348879	400000	1032310	105077	197600	32200
7	South Central	8	12	11	59	130454	169432	524153	54132	126100	100
8	South Eastern	6	7	10	28	66602	73750	329053	30283	71700	5400
9	Western	3	0	0	14	90000	103943	262841	76018	49500	9700
Total		105	42	48	343	915668	1289273	3250000	478740	855600	128400

Statement-II

S.No.	State	Works Sanctioned during three years			Total Nos. of on-going cost Sharing Works
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	
1	Andhra Pradesh	8	13	15	54
2	Assam	-	-	1	5
3	Bihar	1	-	2	11
4	Delhi	1	-	-	1
5	Gujarat	-	-	-	2
6	Jharkhand	-	-	16	20
7	Haryana	-	-	-	3
8	Karnataka	29	-	8	44
9	Kerala	15	8	-	49
10	Madhya Pradesh	-	2	-	10
11	Maharashtra	2	4	-	19
12	Orissa	2	-	-	4
13	Punjab	-	5	1	12
14	Rajasthan	2	2	-	5
15	Tamil Nadu	24	-	-	40
16	Uttar Pradesh	2	-	3	21
17	West Bengal	19	8	2	43
Total		105	42	48	343

Demand and Supply of Power

3826. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation are in a position to provide the required quantity of power to States where NTPC operates at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the power allotted to each State during the last three years, State-wise and Year-wise; and

(c) the demand and supply made and its charge per unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) provides power from its stations to the states according to the allocations made by the Ministry of Power.

The details regarding the power allocated/supply made to each State/Union Territory/State Electricity Board from NTPC stations during the last three years are given in enclosed statement-I.

The cost of energy supplied from various NTPC power stations during the last three years is given in enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Total Power Allocated/Supply made to beneficiary States/UTs/SEBs from NTPC Power Stations in various regions

(in MW)

Region/SEB	As on 31.3.2000	As on 31.3.2001	As on 31.3.2002
1	2	3	4
A: Northern			
Uttar Pradesh SEB	2339	2779	2531
Uttaranchal SEB	-	-	257
Rajasthan SEB	670	670	674
Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking	1281	1281	1284
Punjab SEB	665	685	670
Haryana SEB	401	833	835
Himachal Pradesh SEB	115	115	116
Jammu & Kashmir	241	241	243
Union Territory of Chandigarh	30	30	30
B: Western			
Madhya Pradesh SEB	1521	1521	1046
Maharashtra SEB	1725	1725	1725
Gujarat SEB	1247	1247	1247
Goa	291	291	291

1	2	3	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	13	13	13
Daman & Diu	12	12	12
Chhattisgarh SEB	-	-	475
C: Southern			
Andhra Pradesh SEB	1005	1005	2005
Karnataka SEB	741	741	741
Tamil Nadu SEB	1011	1011	1011
Kerala SEB	875	875	885
Goa	100	100	100
Pondicherry	108	108	108
D : Eastern			
West Bengal SEB	710	710	530
Bihar SEB	899	899	700
Orissa SEB	1092	1092	1092
Damodar Valley Corporation	263	263	160
Sikkim	58	58	15
Jharkhand SEB	-	-	100

SEB - State Electricity Board

Statement-II

Cost of Energy supplied from various NTPC Power Stations during the last three years

Station	Paise/Kwh (1999-2000)	Paise/Kwh (2000-2001)	Paise/Kwh (2001-2002) (Provisional)
1	2	3	4
Singrauli	92.3	96.61	97.36
Korba	72.39	68.95	74.72
Ramagundam	134.72	121.84	123.44
Farakka	184.55	172.15	180.56
Vindhyachal	114.28	129.73	138.98

1	2	3	4
Rihand	147.71	141.11	142.39
Unchahar	186.36	194.77	206.64
Dadri Thermal	216.74	216.83	228.61
Kahalgaon	191.37	192.44	229.06
Talcher STPS	161.65	172.34	166.62
Talcher TPS	128.49	132.41	138.14
Tanda TPC	832.26	463.93	229.89
Anta	136.84	132.82	137.1
Auraiya	160.6	174.15	166.95
Dadri Gas	151.86	183.14	199.72
Kawas	237.48	310.22	340.11
Jhanor Gandhar	323.74	333.95	285.76
Kayamkulam	250.4	505.82	411.5
Faridabad	344.3	220.95	202.05

STPS - Super Thermal Power Station

TPS - Thermal Power Station

Rail Link Between Tripura and Bangladesh

3827. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to open a rail link between Tripura and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the said rail link would provide transit rights to North-Eastern States through Bangladesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is a proposal under consideration to establish a Railway link between Agartala (India) & Akaura (Bangladesh). Indian Railways have completed survey on

Indian side whereas there is no progress from Bangladesh side & the position still remains the same.

(c) to (e) Transit facilities for Indian Rail traffic to move across Bangladesh to Tripura have been under discussion between the two Governments for quite some time. However, Bangladesh has not yet agreed to provide transit facilities to India.

Coast Guard Stations

3828. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up additional number of Coast Guard Stations;

(b) if so, the number of new Coast Guard Stations proposed to be set up; and

(c) the places selected therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to set up 13 new Coast Guard Stations in a phased manner.

(c) The places tentatively selected are as:-

West Coast	-	Jakhau, Vadinar, Jafarabad, Ratnagiri, Bhatkalor Malpe, Beypore, Vizhinjam and Kavaratti in Lakshadeep.
East Coast	-	Kakinada, Nagapattinam or Pondicherry and Gopalpur.
Andaman & Nicobar	-	Hutbay and Kamorta.

[Translation]

Government Flats in Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur

3829. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government flats available in Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh);

(b) the number of flats declared unsafe;

(c) the number of new houses being constructed;

(d) whether flats are being constructed in excess to their requirements; and

(e) If so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The following numbers of Government accommodation is available at Central Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur:

(i) For Junior Commission Officers/Other Ranks (JCOs/ORs) - 343

(ii) For Civilian Employees - 157

(b) Nil.

(c) Nil.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of reply at (d) above, the question does not arise.

[English]

Pension to War Widows

3830. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "71 war widows a deprived lot" appearing in the *Hindu* dated July 11, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Women, who were widowed during the 1965 and 1971 wars and latter remarried have petitioned his Ministry against the discriminatory pension rules which denies them benefits normally extended to war widows;

(d) whether the aggrieved women have also requested the Government (Defence Ministry) to liberalise pension rules revised after the Kargil War, which seek to extend pension and other concessions to war widows, even if they remarried;

(e) if so, the details in this regard; and

(f) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) Some petitions have been received requesting for rationalization of Liberalised Special Family Pension in respect of war widows of pre 1.1.1996 cases of Armed Forces personnel. The demand of the war widows of 1965 and 1971 wars relates to modified parity in pensionary benefits given to pre 1996 war widows. Their demand is that the liberalized family pension and other benefits granted to war widows remarried after 1.1.1996 should also be granted to widows remarried before 1.1.1996.

2. The war widows are entitled to liberalized family pension at the rate of last pay drawn by the deceased at the time of his death. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Fifth Pay Commission, the liberalized family pension of war widows prior to 1.1.1996 has also been revised to the minimum of the new pay scale introduced w.e.f. 1.1.1996 provided their consolidated liberalized family pension is not more than the minimum of the new pay scale.

3. The demand of the 1965 and 1971 war widows

who got remarried prior to 1.1.1996 is for extending to them the benefits of liberalized family pension given to the widows who got remarried after 1.1.1996. According to the orders in force before 1.1.1996, the liberalized family pension granted to a war widow was converted into ordinary family pension from the date following the date of her remarriage except in case of remarriage with real brother of the deceased personnel. This order has been modified to provide that the widows remarrying after 1.1.1996 can continue to draw liberalized family pension provided they continue to support children after remarriage. If they do not support children after remarriage they are allowed ordinary family pension and balance pension is transferred to children. The revised orders have prospective effect from 1.1.1996.

No further liberalization in this regard is envisaged.

Additional Funds for Creation of New Courts

3831. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments have requested the Union Government for allocation of additional funds for creation of new courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the funds proposed to be allocated to the various States during the current financial year for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the number of request pending for creation of additional courts for speedy disposal of cases, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) to (d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to development of infrastructural facilities for the judiciary is being implemented since 1993-94. The scheme includes construction of court buildings and residential houses for Judges/Judicial Officers covering High Courts and District/Subordinate Courts. Funds are provided by the Planning Commission on the basis of Annual Plan Discussion. The funds are released to various States/Union Territories on the basis of the criterion laid down by the Planning Commission. From the current financial year, the funds for construction of Family Courts are also being provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

No specific proposal has been received from the State Governments for creation of new courts. However, the

following State Governments have demanded 50% of the amount mentioned in the statement for setting up of additional Family Courts in the State:

Statement		
Name of the State	No. of Family Courts proposed to be set up	Amount Demanded for setting up new Family Court (Rs. lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	23	1229.35
Bihar	38	256.44
Karnataka	3	116.50
Madhya Pradesh	7*	179.83
Tripura	1	24.88
Uttaranchal	13**	289.28

* Family Courts since set up.

** Includes 5 Family Courts already set up

Note: allocation to the States will be made as per norms.

Policy on Consumption of Petroleum Products

3832. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of lack of clear policies of the Government there are avoidable problems in the consumption of CNG, LPG, Diesel and Petrol etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Government is pushing the sales of fossil fuels which are in any case not as green as the Government propose to project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) All the fuels, namely Petrol, Diesel, CNG and LPG are fossil fuels. For addressing environmental concerns, the Government have taken steps to improve the quality of petrol and diesel which, inter alia, include removal of lead from petrol, reduction in benzene and sulphur in petrol and reduction in sulphur and improving cetane number in diesel. An amount of over Rs. 10,000 crore has been spent on quality improvement of petrol and diesel.

In addition, Government have permitted use of CNG and LPG for automotive applications. Presently, CNG is being dispensed in the cities having natural gas pipelines. Public sector oil companies are setting up facilities to supply LPG for automotive use in the polluted cities.

The Government have set up a Committee headed by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Chairman, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, comprising experts of national repute to make recommendations to the Government on an appropriate national Auto Fuel Policy. The Report of the Committee is expected shortly.

Reform in Power Sector

3833. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have completed reforms in Power Sector;

(b) whether there is any improvement in the performance of State Electricity Boards after opting for reforms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Power sector reform is an ongoing process. Orissa, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi have initiated power sector reforms by enacting their own State Electricity Reform laws which provide, inter alia, for unbundling/corporatisation of SEBs, setting up of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) etc. They have unbundled and corporatised their electricity boards. Orissa and Delhi have privatized distribution.

Twelve SERCs of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal have already issued tariff orders.

In the States where SERCs are functional and have issued tariff orders, there is improved transparency with involvement of consumers in tariff setting, correct classification of load, better assessment of T&D losses, setting the standard of performance of utilities etc. The process of tariff rationalization has been initiated. The focus is on improvement in terms of reduction in cash losses, increase in billing and collection efficiency, metering of supply of electricity of

consumers and control of theft. Early signs of financial turn around are visible in states like Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

[Translation]

Setting up of PSUs in J&K

3834. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of undertakings in Jammu & Kashmir along with the details of progress made by these undertakings during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have not taken keen interest in setting up undertakings in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of efforts made by the Government for the industrial development in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per the location of registered office, there is one Central Public Sector Undertaking in the state of Jammu & Kashmir namely J & K Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (J&KMDCL) which is under construction according to details given in Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 2001 which was laid in the Parliament on 7.3.2002 and is a published document. So far as State Government Public Sector Undertakings are concerned, such information is not maintained centrally.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have extended the North East Industrial Policy package to the State of Jammu & Kashmir with a view to promote and facilitate investments in the industrial sector. The salient features of the proposed package components are:-

- (i) 100% Excise exemption to the investment for new industrial units and units under substantial expansion;
- (ii) Capital Investment Subsidy to the extent of 15% to the capital investment or Rs. 30 lakhs whichever is less;
- (iii) The working Capital Investment Subsidy to the extent of 3%;
- (iv) 100% Insurance premium on the Capital Investment.

The above policy package has been notified on 14th June, 2002 by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

[English]

Power Production in Rajasthan

3835. SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in power production in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the power generated by Rajasthan through its internal sources and the total supply of power from neighbouring States and Central grids;

(c) the total consumption of power in Rajasthan and the percentage of its own power production against its total consumption;

(d) the reasons for charging higher rates in the States;

(e) whether allocation of funds for Rajasthan has been reduced; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Details of electricity generation in Rajasthan during 1999-2000 to 2001-02 is given below:

	Electricity Generation (MU)		
	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-02
Rajasthan-State			
Thermal	8184	9860	10714
Hydro	995	376	542
Total	9179	10236	11256
Central Project			
Thermal/Gas	3189	2881	3058
Nuclear	2202	3578	4674
Total	14570	16695	18988

(b) The total power availability to Rajasthan during April-June, 2002 from its own sources including its drawal in Chambal Satpura Complex was 2847.2 MU, availability from common projects of BBMB, Central Sector, NTPC Projects, NHPC Projects and NPC Projects was 3284.8 MU which includes assistance of 23.5 MU from Eastern and Western Grid.

(c) The total power availability in Rajasthan during April-June, 2002 was 6132 MU. The ratio percentage of its own sources in Rajasthan including actual drawal from joint projects of Chambal- Satpura Complex of the total availability was 46.6% (2847.2 MU).

(d) The rates for electricity in Rajasthan are fixed according to tariff orders issued by Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission.

(e) and (f) The financial outlay of Rajasthan as per Planning Commission during 8th Plan and various years of 9th Plan is as under:

Financial Outlays

(Rs. Crores)

Eight Plan	
Approved	3200.00
Actual	3046.28
Ninth Plan	
Agreed	4488.89
1997-98	
Approved	702.24
Actual	1494.43
1998-99	
Approved	782.23
Actual	792.23
1999-2000	
Approved	841.94
Actual	763.63
2000-01	
Approved	993.66
Actual	1016.57
2001-02	
Approved	1277.56
RE	1206.50

[Translation]

**Allotment of more than one Petrol
Pump/LPG Agency**

3836. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government to allocate more than one petrol/diesel retail outlet or L.P.G. agency dealerships to close relatives of the person who is already holding LPG Agency/ Retail outlets;

(b) the number of such cases come to light through various representations;

(c) whether any action have been taken against the erring dealers and oil companies in such cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) As per the existing policy, no person shall be awarded a new dealership/distributorship if he/she or any of his/her close relatives (including step relatives) as given below already holds Letter of Intent or dealership/distributorship of any oil company:

Other than Physically Handicapped Persons (PH) Category	Physically Handicapped Persons (PH) Category
(a) Spouse	(a) Spouse
(b) Father/Mother**	(b) Father/Mother**
(c) Brother/Brother's Wife @@	(c) Son/Daughter-in-law
(d) Son/Daughter-in-law	

Notes

** Not applicable to a married female applicant who is not dependent on her father/mother.

@@ Not applicable to a married female applicant who is not dependent on her brother/brother's wife."

These norms are scrupulously followed by the Oil Companies.

[English]

**Power Supply to Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh
and Tamil Nadu**

3837. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are overdrawing power by supplying electricity at a frequency lower than the standard, resulting in collapsing of grids and damage to equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Power Ministry has shown great concern on this issue; and

(d) if so, the directives issued by the Union Government to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) States of Southern Region including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have been overdrawing power from Central Sector

Generating Stations in Southern Region, from time to time, at frequency lower than 49 Hz which is the expected lower limit of operation of grid as per Indian Electricity Grid Code resulting in further deterioration in grid frequency. The sustained low frequency operation endangers the security of grid and may also be deleterious to equipments. In last year, three grid disturbances of large magnitude occurred in Southern region first on 11.9.2001 second on 23.1.2002 and third on 14.5.2002. Failure of turbine blades in generating units and mal-operation of nuclear power stations has also been reported due to low frequency operation. The southern regional grid has been operating for most of the times at a frequency lower than 48.5 Hz.

(c) and (d) The issue of low frequency of Southern Region is being looked in to by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) from time to time. The constituents of Southern Region have been impressed upon to take measures like regulating of their demands to be within the availability from their own generation and entitlement from Central Generating Stations, to notify requisite power cuts keeping in view the anticipated power availability and resort to automatic load shedding through under-frequency relays in two/three stages etc., so that operating frequency of the grid could be raised thereby reducing the possibility of grid collapse and damage to equipments.

*[Translation]***COCO Pumps in Rajasthan**

3838. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Coco and Jubilee retail outlets allotted in Rajasthan during the last three years and the method of their allotment;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation regarding irregularities in the allotment of Coco pumps and jubilee pumps; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) During the last three years, i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, 11 Jubilee Retail Outlets (JROs) and 63 Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) retail outlets were commissioned by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the State of Rajasthan. COCO retail outlets and JROs are operated with an officer of the OMCs concerned as over-all incharge of the outlet. Labour assistance is provided through contractor to the Company Officer for day-to-day operation. Labour Contractors are appointed by the OMCs in accordance with the guidelines laid down in this regard.

The OMCs have reported that they have not received any representation regarding irregularities in the appointment of the Labour Contractors.

Setting up of New Power Plants in Jharkhand

3839. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Jharkhand has sent the proposal for setting up of new power projects;

(b) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these power plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) No proposal from the State Government of Jharkhand has been

received in Central Electricity Authority. However, the following proposals from the Central and Private Sector for setting up of thermal power projects in Jharkhand have been received:

1. North Karanpura STPP (3x660 MW) by NTPC.
2. Maithon Right Bank TPP (4x250 MW)
(A joint venture of M/s. DVC and BSES)
3. Jojobera TPP Extn. U-4 by M/s. Tata Power Company Limited (1x120 MW).

All the three projects are targeted for commissioning in the Tenth Plan.

*[English]***LPG as Auto Fuel**

3840. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) has been found to be quite suitable for use as an alternative fuel for other transport sector;

(b) whether the centre for science and environment has also opined LPG as a clean fuel than CNG;

(c) if so, whether the use of LPG for transport sector has been recommended to the critically polluted cities including Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the State Governments about the use of LPG for transport sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) LPG is a proven alternative auto fuel world wide which is also considered as environment friendly. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are planning to set up Auto LPG Dispensing Stations (ALDS) in the polluted cities as per the directions of the Supreme Court after assessing the demand in these cities in consultation with respective State Governments.

[Translation]

Liberalisation of Petroleum Industry

3841. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA:

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to announce a new policy to liberalise petroleum industry particularly import of crude oil by abolishing prevalent monopoly in this field;

(b) if so, the time by which this policy is likely to be announced;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the consumers would benefited by the liberalisation of import policy; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The Government has dismantled the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector with effect from 1st April 2002 as a reform measure. Crude oil is already freely importable,

Liberalisation of import policy would promote competition and benefit the consumers.

[English]

Use of Solar Energy

3842. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme or taken any steps to optimise the use of solar energy in both urban and rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Solar energy can be used through two principal routes - the thermal route for heating, cooking, drying, water purification, power generation etc. and the photovoltaic route for converting sun light to electricity which can be used for a variety of purposes such as lighting, pumping, communication and refrigeration. A number of solar devices have been developed for different applications and are being manufactured commercially. To promote the large scale use of these devices in both urban & rural areas, the Government has been implementing various schemes which include the following:

(i) Interest subsidy schemes have been introduced for solar thermal devices through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and some banks under which loans at low interest are being made available to the users. A total of around 6,50,000 sq. m. of solar collector area for water heating has been installed so far.

(ii) A model building bye-law for making solar assisted water heating systems mandatory in certain types of buildings has been drafted and circulated to all State Governments.

(iii) A demonstration scheme for installation of concentrating type solar cookers in community kitchens is being implemented. The world's largest solar steam cooking system for 10,000 people is in operation at Brahmakumaris Ashram at Taleti, near Mount Abu, Rajasthan.

(iv) Under a promotional scheme on solar cookers, publicity and awareness promotion campaign is being carried out through advertisements, demonstrations, brochures, electronic media, etc. Over 5,25,000 box solar cookers have so far been sold in the country.

(v) A 140 MW Integrated Combined Cycle power project has been sanctioned for installation at village Mathania, Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The project comprises of a solar thermal power plant of 35 MW capacity based on parabolic trough collector technology and a 105 MW combined cycle plant to be run on re-gasified natural gas (R-LNG).

(vi) A country-wide solar photovoltaic programme is in operation under which devices like solar lanterns, solar home lighting systems, solar street lights, power plants and solar pumps are being installed through subsidies to the users. Over 4,27,680 solar lanterns, 2,06,730 home lighting systems, 41,770 street lights, 5,000 water pumps and 2.7 MW capacity of power plants have so far been installed under this programme.

(vii) A scheme on village electrification has been developed under which 18,000 unelectrified remote villages have been proposed to be electrified through non-conventional energy sources. Out of these, 5,000 will be electrified during 10th plan, including 4,000 through solar photovoltaic systems.

(viii) Aditya Solar Shops are being established in cities in order to make solar products available to users and provide repair services. 29 such shops have been established so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Military Partnership with NATO

3843. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have come to an agreement or proposes for any Military partnership with the NATO;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the purpose therefor; and

(c) whether it is not the deviation from our non-alignment policy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Role of Media during Violence in Gujarat

3844. SHRI MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE:

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government media units operating in Gujarat at the time of Gujarat carnage and thereafter;

(b) the details of work done by each of them during and after outbreak of violence in Gujarat so far;

(c) whether some of the units have been withdrawn; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Besides All India Radio and Doordarshan, the Units of Press Information

Bureau, Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity and the private registered parties of Song & Drama Division were functioning in Gujarat at the time of recent riots in Gujarat and thereafter.

(b) Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad and Rajkot worked together during the said period and thereafter for coverage of news, telecast of programmes, messages on communal harmony quickies etc.

The two Regional News Units of All India Radio at Ahmedabad and Bhuj worked constantly for restoration of peace in riot affected Gujarat by putting out impartial and objective news stories and news-based programmes. Appeals made by the President, the Prime Minister, the State Governor and the Chief Minister as well as by leaders of political parties and Communities for maintaining communal harmony were included in the news bulletins. The relief package announced by the State were given wide coverage in the news bulletins.

The Song & Drama Division, Pune Regional Centre deputed the private registered parties for presentation of programmes on the themes of National Integration, Communal Harmony and Anti-terrorism in Gujarat..

The Ahmedabad Unit of Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity put up exhibitions at various places in the State.

The Press Information Bureau offices at Rajkot and Ahmedabad issued articles and features relating to peace and communal harmony. It provided publicity support to Defence and Paramilitary Forces highlighting the role of armed and paramilitary forces in civilian duty. A Sadbhavana Rally, was organized with active support of PIB. It also helped in organizing a Seminar on "Role of Media in Communal Harmony and Peace" on 1.5.2002 in Ahmedabad.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of NCE Projects

3845. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh since January 2000 for setting up of projects connected with Non-Conventional Energy Sources;

(b) the salient features of these projects;

(c) the decision taken by the Ministry on such projects; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is expected to be taken on such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (d) The details of proposals received in this Ministry from the State of Andhra Pradesh since January, 2000 for setting up of various non-conventional energy projects indicating their salient features and decisions taken by the Ministry thereon, are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of proposals received from the State of Andhra Pradesh since January, 2000 for setting up of non-conventional energy projects

S. No.	Project Proposals and Salient Features	Decision / Present Status
1	2	3
I.	Wind Power	
1.	A 2.25 MW demonstration wind power project at Kondamedapalli in Kurnool District.	Commissioned on 31.3.2001.
2.	A 2.25 MW demonstration wind power project at Narasimha Konda in Nellore District.	Under Examination.
II.	Biomass Gasifier	
3.	200 kW Thermal Power Project at Prakasam District.	Sanctioned on 31.1.2000 and commissioned.
4.	250 kW Thermal Project at Gyatri Secunderabad.	Sanctioned on 24.3.2000 and commissioned.
5.	1x100 kW Electrical Power Project at Tanuku.	Sanctioned on 21.9.2000 and commissioned.
6.	2x300 kW Electrical Power Project at Bhagyanagar, Kurnool.	Sanctioned on 27.10.2000 and commissioned.
III.	Solar Photovoltaic	
7.	A proposal for 5000 solar lanterns, 200 home lighting systems and 100 street lighting systems during the year 2000-01 in Andhra Pradesh.	Sanctioned and implemented.
8.	A proposal for 23,000 solar lanterns, 200 home lighting systems and 200 street lighting systems during the year 2001-02 in Andhra Pradesh.	Sanctioned and implemented.
9.	A proposal for 10,000 solar lanterns, 200 home lighting systems, 500 street lighting systems and a 10kW SPV power plant during the year 2002-03 in Andhra Pradesh.	Under Examination.
IV.	Water Pumping Wind Mills	
10.	2 specific proposals for installation of geared type water pumping wind mills one each at Garladinne, Anantpur District and Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.	Sanctioned and installed.

1	2	3
V.	Biogas Plants	
11.	A proposal for setting up of 25,000 biogas plants during the year 2000-01 in Andhra Pradesh	Sanctioned and implemented.
12.	A proposal for setting up of 22,000 biogas plants during the year 2001-02 in Andhra Pradesh	Sanctioned and implemented.
13.	A proposal for setting up of 22,000 biogas plants during the year 2002-03 in Andhra Pradesh	
VI.	Imported Chulha	
14.	A proposal for setting up of 1,50,000 improved Chulhas during the year 2000-01 in Andhra Pradesh	Sanctioned and implemented.
15.	A proposal for setting up of 1,75,000 biogas plants during the year 2001-02 in Andhra Pradesh	Sanctioned and implemented.
VII.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme	
16.	A project proposal for 10 cluster of villages submitted by APCOST	3 clusters of villages sanctioned on 29.9.2001.
VIII.	Energy Parks	
17.	Energy Park, proposal at APRM Arts and Science Degree College, Cuddapah District	Sanctioned on 30.3.2002.
18.	Energy Park proposal at Government Degree College for Women, Mahbubnagar District	Sanctioned 30.3.2002.
19.	Energy Park proposal at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Madanapuram, Mahbubnagar District	Not sanctioned.
IX.	Waste to Energy	
20.	3.0 MW capacity Incineration technology based power plant by utilizing palm oil industry wastes by M/s Sai Renewable Power Project Ltd., Hyderabad	Under consideration. Promoters have been advised to complete financial closure and other tie-ups for facilitating final decision by the Ministry.
21.	3.0 MW capacity Incineration technology based power plant by utilizing furfural industry wastes by M/s Sahaja Agro Industries Ltd., Hyderabad	-do-
22.	6.6 MW capacity Pelletization-cum-Power generation project from Municipal Solid Wastes by M/s SELCO International Ltd., Hyderabad	- do -
23.	5.7 MW capacity Pelletization-cum-Power generation project from Municipal Solid Wastes by M/s Shriram Energy Systems Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	- do -
24.	11.0 MW capacity Pelletization-cum-Power generation project from Municipal Solid Wastes by M/s RDF Power Projects Ltd., Hyderabad	- do -

1	2	3
25.	4.0 MW capacity Incineration technology based power plant by utilizing starch industry wastes by M/s Vensa Biotek Ltd., Samalkot, A.P.	- do -
26.	6.0 MW capacity Incineration technology based power plant by utilizing poultry industry wastes Incineration technology by M/s Kakatiya Alloys Pvt. Ltd., Ranga Reddy Distt., A.P.	- do -
27.	2.5 MW capacity Incineration technology based power plant by utilizing furfural industry wastes by M/s. Delta Agro Chemicals Ltd., Krishna Distt., A.P.	- do -
28.	3.0 MW capacity power generation project from biogas to be produced through Biomethanation of poultry wastes by M/s Ramaprasad Pvt. Ltd., Tanuku A.P.	- do -
29.	3.0 MW capacity power generation project from biogas to be produced through Biomethanation of poultry wastes by M/s Raus Power Pvt. Ltd., Anaparthi Vill., East Godavari Dist. A.P.	- do -
X.	Solar Thermal	
30.	A proposal of paraboloid type solar steam cooking system with a cooking capacity 15,000 people per day at Tirumala	Sanctioned. The system is under installation.
31.	A proposal of paraboloid type solar steam cooking system with a cooking capacity 500 people per day at Chittoor District	Sanctioned. The system is under installation.
32.	A proposal on promotional activities on solar cooker for the year 2001-02.	Sanctioned and implemented.
33.	A proposal of 6 nos. paraboloid type community solar cookers and 100 nos. of dish solar cookers in Andhra Pradesh.	Sanctioned and under implementation.
34.	A proposal for establishment of an Aditya Solar Shop through an NOD named KRUSHI at Karimnagar District	Under Examination.
35.	Proposal for installation of Solar Drying Systems in Andhra Pradesh.	Under Examination. Revised proposal awaited.

[Translation]

Linking Bhiwadi with Broad Gauge Line

3846. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for linking of Bhiwadi Industrial Area/town (in district Alwar of Rajasthan) with broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Rajasthan have requested for rail link from Rewari to Palwal via Bhiwadi.

state:

(c) A survey for rail link from Rewari to Bhiwadi has been taken up.

[English]

Allotment of PLF to Power Projects

3847. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for allotment of at least 85% PLF to all the recommended power projects in that State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The electricity generation target and the targeted PLF of the

Thermal Power Stations in Andhra Pradesh for the year 2002-03 is given in the enclosed statement. New projects namely Kothagudem-D, Vijayawada, Royalaseema of Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation Limited (APGENCO) are operating at more than 85% PLF. The following steps are being taken to improve the performance of generating capacity:

(i) Revised norms for planned maintenance of large thermal units.

(ii) Early revival of units under forced outage.

(iii) Renovation and modernization and life extension of existing old and inefficient generating units.

(iv) Disbursement of loan by the Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of Thermal Power Stations under accelerated generation programme.

Statement

Generation and PLF Target of Thermal Power Stations in A.P. for the Year 2002-03

Organisation/ Station	Generating Capacity (MW) 31.3.2002	Generating Target (MU) 2002-03	PLF Target (%) 2002-03
1	2	3	4
APGENCO			
K'Gudem-A	240.0	1690	80.4
K'Gudem-B	210.0	1520	82.6
K'Gudem-C	220.0	800	41.5
K'Gudem-D	500.0	3860	88.1
Total (K'Gudem)	1170.0	7870	76.8
R'Gudem-B	62.5	400	73.1
Nellore	30.0	175	66.6
Vijayawada	1260.0	9605	87.0
Royalaseema	420.0	3450	93.8
Total (APGENCO)	2942.5	21500	83.4
APGPC			
Vijeswaram CCGT	272.3	1935	

1	2	3	4
NTPC			
K'Gudem	2100.0	16000	87.0
Simhadri	0.0 (+1000.0*)	4500	76.1
NTPC-AP	2100.0 (+1000.0*)	20500	85.3
G.V.K Indust			
Jegurupadu	235.4	1624	
Spectrum PGL			
Godavari GT	208.0	1604	
LANCO			
Kondapalli	350.0	2909	
BSES			
Pedapuram GT	0.0 (+220.0*)	1585	
Total A.P	6108.2 (+1220.0*)	51657	
ALL INDIA			
State Sector	38851.1 (+1255.3*)	232479	68.2
Central Sector	25209.0 (+1420.0*)	170450	74.8
Pvt. Utility	3385.0	21745	74.0
Pvt. IPP	5920.5 (+546.0*)	20884	
Total All India	73365.6 (+3221.3*)	445558	70.8

Note: "*" New Capacity.

Basic Amenities to Travellers

3848. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is committed to provide basic amenities to travellers in Second Class Sleeper coaches;

(b) if so, whether all North East bound express/ mail are overcrowded in second class sleeper coaches much beyond its capacity;

(c) whether the TTEs in order to show more revenue collection in their account, permit travellers without confirmed reservation in second class sleeper coaches by

realising the difference between general coach and sleeper coach; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent overcrowding in sleeper coaches on North East bound mail/express trains and also against the corrupt TTEs involved in such activities.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During peak rush periods, sometimes, some of the Northeast bound trains get overcrowded.

(c) Passengers with ordinary second class tickets are not allowed to travel in Sleeper Class coaches. As such,

the Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) charge them as per rules.

(d) Instructions exist for detrainning unauthorised persons from Sleeper Class coaches. Special checks are also conducted and defaulters are dealt with as per provisions of the Railways Act. In addition, during peak rush periods, special trains are run and coaches augmented in the existing trains. Railway staff, found abetting irregular travel, are taken up under the Disciplinary rules.

Laying of Old Track

3849. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C. N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tracks on busy routes outlived their utility but not discarded;

(b) whether these removed tracks from one place are re-laid on routes that are not so busy;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether tracks manufactured in 1947 were removed from somewhere and installed in the Jodhpur Division in 1987 which ultimately resulted in derailment of 11 coaches and the engine;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the loss suffered by the Railways on this account; and

(f) the reasons for which the use of outdated tracks had been allowed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (f) The released rails and sleepers from busy lines are segregated into second hand serviceable rails and sleepers i.e. rails and sleepers still having balance life, and scrap rails and sleepers i.e. rails and sleepers not having balance life. The released serviceable rails are scanned ultrasonically before using them for renewal on routes having lighter traffic. The Phulera-Degana Metre Gauge sections of Jodhpur Division was renewed in 1987 with second hand 90R rails manufactured in 1947 and released from Broad Gauge sections. At the time of gauge conversion, the same rails were used. The cause of the derailment of Delhi-Mandore Express in October, 2001

has been held as "fracture of Alumino-Thermit welded joint of rail". The total cost of damage to Railway assets was assessed at Rs. 65.43 lakh.

[Translation]

Employment Generation on Railway Land

3850. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake a survey with a view to find out the possibility of employment generation on additional railway land in and around railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of contracts/licenses awarded for opening stalls and shops on such locations with a view to provide employment opportunities during the last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Ban on Sale of Military Uniforms

3851. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in most of the terrorist attacks, the terrorist came in military uniform;

(b) if so, whether the Government would consider regulating supply of military uniform or banning open sale of military cloth and use of military uniforms; and

(c) if not, the other steps, the Government contemplate to ensure that military uniforms are not made available to militant outfits?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There have been a number of instances in Jammu and Kashmir wherein terrorists dressed in Army/Police uniforms have carried out acts of violence generally with the intention of maligning/defaming the Security Forces, and, in some cases, to gain unhindered entry into camps/installations.

(b) and (c) Initially, in 1989, a proposal of banning Olive

Green Cloth in the Civil Sector was initiated by the Ministry of Home Affairs and was also examined by the Ministry of Textiles and referred to the Ministry of Law & Justice. The proposal was not accepted as it was not legally tenable. In August, 1994, Ministry of Defence brought to the notice of Ministry of Home Affairs that a number of civilians, civil security organisations etc. have been using service pattern uniforms, uniforms articles and vehicles, which are painted similar to defence duty vehicle and also that ex-servicemen employed by various security agencies/private enterprises/shops have been using olive green uniforms, which was a matter of serious concern. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued instructions to all States/Union Territory Administrations on 24.10.1994 and again on 18.1.1999 to take appropriate measures and issue directions for immediate stoppage of open sale, stitching and use of Service uniforms and Uniform articles by unauthorized persons, use of service type painted vehicles by civilians.

Proposals from Maharashtra

3852. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by the Government of Maharashtra for the widening of existing lines, construction of new lines and the doubling of existing railway lines in the State during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Some of the proposals regarding New lines, Gauge Conversions and Doublings received from State Govt. of Maharashtra during last 3 years are given as under including action taken thereon:

S.N.	Project	Action Taken
1.	Construction of New line between Manmad-Malegaon-Dhule-Nardana-Shirpur and Indore	Survey for construction of new line from Manmad-Malegaon-Dhule-Nardana-Shirpur has been conducted. It has revealed that the cost of construction of these lines would be Rs. 144.50 crore and Rs. 104 crores respectively both with negative rate of return. In view of the unremunerative nature and constraint of resources, the proposals could not be considered. The survey for new line from Shirpur to Mhow is in progress. Further consideration of the proposal would be possible after the survey report becomes available. Indore-Mhow is already connected by a railway line.
2.	Construction of new line from Baramati to Pandharpur	The proposed new line from Baramati to Pandharpur would be about 110 km long and would cost not less than Rs. 330 cr. In view of heavy throwforward of ongoing new line works and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to consider construction of the suggested new line for the present.
3.	Construction of railway line from Kalyan-Murbad via Malshejghat to Ahmednagar	A survey has recently been completed. The survey report revealed that the cost of the 204 km. line would be Rs. 722 cr. with negative rate of return. Due to grossly unremunerative nature of the line and acute constraint of resources, the proposal could not be considered.
4.	Bandra-Kurla Rail Line	Bandra-Kurla Rail Link, which is one of the projects included in Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II (MUTP-II), will be considered at the appropriate time.

Transportation/Movement of Petroleum Products

3853. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major volume of petro products is still being transported by road/rail tankers over long distances, which again involve use of energy in one form or the other;

(b) if so, whether the Government has considered transportation/movement of petro products through a Pipeline network; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Major quantities of petroleum products are being transported by road, rail, coastal tankers, and cross-country pipeline. The pipeline transportation system is the cheapest and environment friendly mode. However, it has the limitation of being the fixed network (point to point) and beyond which products have to be carried through other modes (road/rail). Road and rail transportation is required to reach the product to inland consumption centres which are not linked by pipeline.

(b) and (c) Oil Industry has drawn up an ambitious programme to set up the following product pipelines during Ninth Plan period in addition to two carry over under construction pipelines from Eighth Plan.

Pipelines carried over from Eighth Plan to Ninth Plan

- (i) Mumbai-Manmad
- (ii) Visakh-Vijaywada

New Pipelines Identified by Ninth Plan Sub-Group Cross Country Pipelines

- (iii) Kochi-Karur
- (iv) Deogarh-Miraj
- (v) Mangalore-Bangalore
- (vi) Bina-Jhansi-Kanpur
- (vii) Paradip-Ranchi
- (viii) Vadinar-Kandla
- (ix) Koyali-Sidhpur

- (x) Sultanpur-Allahabad
- (xi) Bhatinda-Jalandhar
- (xii) Jalandhar-Udhampur
- (xiii) Mathura-Kanpur

Short Distance Feeder Pipelines

- (xiv) Panipat-Meerut
- (xv) Panipat-Saharanpur
- (xvi) Kanpur-Lucknow

Identified Subsequent to Preparation of Ninth Plan Subgroup Report

- (xvii) Chennai-Trichi-Madurai

Renewal of Tracks in Andhra Pradesh

3854. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of rail line in Andhra Pradesh at present, gauge-wise;

(b) whether a large portion of rail line in Andhra Pradesh is long overdue for renewal;

(c) if so, the total length of rail line due for renewal;

(d) the reasons for delay in renewal of these tracks in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to renew these tracks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The total length of rail line (route kilometres) in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.3.2001 (latest available) is 5135 km comprising 4412 km of Broad Gauge, 686 km Meter Gauge and 37 km Narrow Gauge.

(b) to (e) The details of track due for renewal as well as renewals done, are not maintained State-wise. Repair and maintenance of track, including renewal, is a continuous process. The pace of renewal of track depends upon the availability of funds. However, it is expected that the track due renewal as on 1.4.2002 may get renewed by the end of year 2006-07.

*[Translation]***Opening of CSD Canteens**

3855. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have determined any parameters for opening of new CSD canteens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open a CSD canteen at Sadulpur sub-division of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) There are laid down guidelines in Army Order No. 584/74 for opening of new Canteen Stores Department Canteens (Unit Run Canteens). As per these guidelines, sanction to open/operate a new Unit Run Canteen is accorded by the Brigade/Sub Area or Higher Formation Commanders subject to the condition that the unit has on its strength one hundred or more service personnel including attached personnel. As regards opening of Canteens for ex-servicemen, Command Headquarters are at liberty to open canteens for ex-servicemen at their discretion. However, a broad guideline of minimum requirement of 10,000 ex-servicemen in an area and the economic and administrative viability of running the canteen is kept in view by the Formation Commanders while deciding about opening of a Unit Run Canteen for ex-servicemen.

2. There is no proposal under consideration for opening of a Unit Run Canteen at Sadulpur Sub-division in Rajasthan.

*[English]***Power Projects during Tenth Plan**

3856. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to help State Governments to set up Power Projects during the Tenth Plan period to achieve the targeted power production of 44,000 MW in the said period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited has agreed to offer to the State

Governments to expertise in residual life assessment of existing power plants of the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The capacity addition target for the 10th Plan is given as under:

(Figures in MW)

	Hydro	Thermal	Nuclear	Cumulative Capacity
Central Sector	8,742	12,790	1300	22,832
State Sector	4,481	6,676	0	11,157
Private Sector	1,170	5,941	0	7,121
Overall	14,393	25,407	1,300	41,110

A capacity of about 3000 MW is likely to be added through renewable during the 10th Plan period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) NTPC has offered consultancy service for Residual Life Assessment (RLA) for the following 6 power stations:

- Patratu TPS (4x110 MW) of Jharkhand State Electricity Board.
- Santhaldin TPS (4x120 MW) of West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd.
- Chandrapura TPS (3x140 MW + 3x120 MW) of Damodar Valley Corporation.
- Durgapur TPS (1x140 MW) of Damodar Valley Corporation.
- Gandhinagar TPS (2x120 MW) of Gujarat Electricity Board.
- Ukai TPS (2x120 MW) of Gujarat Electricity Board.

*[Translation]***Checking of Power**

3857. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken several

measures to improve the quality of power to check the interruption of power supply and to upgrade the various equipments along with transformers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on this account during the year 2001- 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP), now known as the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms

Programme (APDRP), was introduced in February 2000 with the objective of initiating a financial turn around in the performance of the State owned power utilities. This programme envisages upgradation of transmission and distribution network in selected distribution circles (both urban and rural) in all the States in the country. An amount of Rs.40,000 crores is expected to be spent for implementation of this programme and proposed to be released to the States for the identified schemes as additional Central Plan Assistance. The Government has formulated a six level intervention strategy to rejuvenate the power sector, primarily to make it viable. The main features of this strategy are:

	Issues	Initiatives
	1	2
National Level	i. Policy issues	i. Electricity Bill
	ii. Legal frame work	ii. Committee for standardization
	iii. Standardisation	
	iv. Accounting	iii. Accounting Standards
State Level	i. Tariff fixation	i. Restructure SEB
	ii. Unbundling	ii. Remove Cross Subsidy
	iii. Subsidies & Budgetary support	iii. Management of Distribution
SEB Level	i. Restructuring	i. Conditions Precedent
	ii. Accounting	ii. Implementation of Grid Code
	iii. MIS	iii. TOD metering
	iv. Erratic Frequency	
Distribution Circle Level	i. Outage reduction	i. 100% Static meters
	ii. Loss reduction	ii. Energy Accounting
	iii. Reliability	iii. Responsibility and accountability for billing and collection
	iv. Voltage & Accountability	iv. Scheme for rewards and punishment
Feeder Level	i. Reliability	i. Capacity Building
	ii. Erratic Voltages	ii. Project Management
	iii. Metering & Billing Collection	iii. Profit Center

	1	2
	iv. HT/LT Ration	iv. District-wise planning
		v. Technical upgradation
Consumer Level	i. Metering	i. Energy Conservation Act
	ii. Compliance of Billing	ii. DSM
	iii. Consumer satisfaction	iii. Public Awareness
		iv. Road Shows
		v. Penal provision for theft

Circle-wise Detailed Project Reports have been prepared, based on local conditions, in which measures like metering of 11 kV feeders, replacement of defective meters, replacement of conductors and transformers, bifurcating power loaded conductors and transformers, renovation of sub-station and the other equipment are being included along with organizational and commercial measures, viz. establishing Vigilance Squads, increasing billing and collection efficiency, identifying irregular connection, setting up of anti-theft squads, etc. It is expected that these measures would enable reduction in outages and interruptions below 11 kV feeder lines.

(c) State-wise details of utilization of funds under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Funds Status under APDRP upto 07.08.2002

Sl.No.	State	Fund Utilised
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	74.97
2	Assam	5.05
3	Bihar	0.75
4	Chhattisgarh	16.83
5	Gujarat	30.38
6	Haryana	5.65
7	Himachal Pradesh	19.37
8	Karnataka	107.85

1	2	3
9	Madhya Pradesh	29.15
10	Maharashtra	72.33
11	Punjab	5.83
12	Rajasthan	11.96
13	Tamil Nadu	12.1
14	Uttar Pradesh	38.59
15	Uttaranchal	4.8
16	West Bengal	44.07
Total		479.68

[English]

Proposal for Cinematography in the Concurrent List

3858. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to remove 'cinematography' from the State list and include it in the concurrent list;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it amounts to infringement of States rights; and

(d) if so, the comments of the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-

CASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The question of bringing the subject of "Cinema" on the Concurrent List has been taken up with the State Governments. However, no consensus has been arrived at in this matter.

Modernisation of Railway Workshop at Hubli

3859. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to modernize the railway workshop at Hubli;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount earmarked for completion of this project; and

(d) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The upgradation of the facilities at Hubli Workshop is under progress for undertaking Periodic Over Haul (POH) of 75 Broad Gauge (BG) coaches/month in the 1st phase and further augmentation to 95 coaches/month in the IInd phase to be completed by 31.03.2003 as per details given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Particulars of Work	Year of Sanction	Anticipated Cost	Expenditure till 31.03.2002	Amount earmarked in 2002-03
1. Hubli Workshop - Conversion of Workshop (Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge) or POH of Coaches (Phase:I)	1995-96	13.57	13.49	0.08
2. Hubli Workshop - Additional facilities to cater for Coach POH activities (Phase:II)	1996.97	6.96	5.09	1.01

[Translation]

Appointment on Compassionate Ground

3860. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

DR. ASHOK PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inordinate delay in giving jobs on compassionate grounds in the Allahabad division of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that ITI or Diploma qualification was not mandatory in the selection process of Assistant Electrical Operator on compassionate ground in Allahabad Division so far, however, at present it has been made mandatory and the dependants of deceased employees are being deprived of jobs;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any action is likely to be taken by the

Government to abolish the said condition so that the dependants of the deceased can be selected for the above said post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Efforts are made to process expeditiously the cases for appointments on Compassionate ground. However, delays take place sometimes on account of lack of documentation, late submission of application, applicant being minor at the time of death or non-availability of suitable vacancy etc.

(c) and (d) The qualifications prescribed for appointment on Compassionate ground are the same as qualifications prescribed for direct recruitment, which have been laid down by this Ministry.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Cases Pending for Disposal

3861. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pertaining to Disciplinary Appeal Rules/Appeals and Court cases are pending in Security Directorate of Railway Board for disposal;

(b) the number of DAR cases which have been dealt during the last six months were disposed off without considering the instructions/rules and facts resulting in discontent in the force at the lower level; and

(c) the time the administration will take to dispose of the DAR cases and rejoinder in court cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) 20 DAR and 3 Court cases are pending.

(b) None.

(c) Administration forthwith proceeds to decide the DAR cases and files rejoinders in Courts, after getting the required information and completing the formalities. Hence, no time limit can be given/suggested.

Outlay for Projects

3862. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has been projecting an astronomically high Central plan outlay at initial stage, downsizing it at revised estimate stage and finally surrendering a substantial allocation at the end;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the details of the plan outlays of the power projects for each of the last three years;

(d) the details of the outlay revised downwards at the revised estimates and the total amount actually utilized; and

(e) the effect of under utilization of the funds on the supply of electricity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) The Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and the actual expenditure incurred during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are given as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Actual Expenditure	Percentage utilization vis-a-vis Revised Estimates
1999-2000	9600.27	8049.92	7641.18	94.92
2000-01	9720.18	8365.38	6553.91	78.34
2001-02	11065.53	10960.28	9925.45	90.56

The primary reasons for some shortfall in utilization of budget outlays are delays in approval of new schemes and slow progress in execution in a few of the ongoing schemes.

Diesel Loco Shed in Orissa

3863. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an inordinate delay in the construction of Diesel Loco Shed and BOX 'N' Depot of Khurda Road Division in Orissa;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been some delay in the progress of the projects for reasons indicated in para (b).

(b) South Eastern Railway has a large shelf of projects to be completed. Funds for the projects are allocated on the basis of prioritisation done by the Railway. Above listed projects have progressed within the constraints of the funds. Diesel Loco Shed has become operational since September '99 and 95% of the work has been completed.

Physical Progress of the BOX 'N' depot is 67%. This project was not given higher priority because this depot can only become functional after the construction of adjoining yard and loop lines.

(c) The progress of the work is being closely monitored.

National Train Enquiry System

3864: SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "a new gateway to the Railways" published in *The Hindu* dated 18.7.2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the details of information which is likely to be provided to the passenger by introducing the new system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to upgrade passenger information regarding train running, the Railways have set up the National Train Enquiry System for providing train running position through terminals at enquiries of important stations, Interactive Voice Response System, display boards and announcement system at major stations. The system provides information which is updated at frequent intervals.

Removal of Construction in DRDL, Hyderabad

3865. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many persons have been displaced due to removal of concerned construction in the vicinity of DRDL, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether the Government have paid any compensation to rehabilitate the displaced persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the compensation is likely to be made to the displaced persons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Use of NCES

3860. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that people in the rural and backward areas in country are not aware of use of Non-Conventional Energy Sources;

(b) if so, the details of awareness programmes implemented by the Government to educate the rural mass in this regard;

(c) whether the Government intend to streamline the awareness campaign in the rural and backward areas of the country about the advantages of Non-Conventional Energy Sources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Under various programmes of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, training and awareness camps on use of biogas, improved chulhas and solar devices are being organized in local/regional languages on regular basis in most of the rural and backward areas in the country through Governmental and Non-Governmental organizations. Besides, electronic, print, exhibitions and outdoor media involving Radio programmes, advertisements, posters and publicity materials, mobile exhibition vans, hoardings/bus back panels, song & drama, etc. are used for popularization of non-conventional energy. However, there is less awareness about the use of wind and other non-conventional energy sources in these areas.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has plans to further expand and streamline the publicity and awareness campaign on the use of non-conventional energy sources in the rural and backward areas of the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Power Projects during Eleventh Plan

3867. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up some power projects in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of those power projects proposed to be implemented in the State during Eleventh Plan period;

(c) the estimated cost and capacity of these power projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The details of power projects programmed for capacity addition during 10th Plan in the State of Karnataka is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)
1.	Almatti Dam HEP	290	674.02
2.	Raichur TPU-&	210	613.00
3.	Bellary TPS	500	2307.27
4.	Kaniminke (Bangalore)	107.6	416.05
5.	Hassan CAPP	189	715.62

The following projects in Karnataka, accorded Techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority, have been identified for implementation during 11th Plan under State/Private Sector:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)
1.	Nagarjuna TPP	1015	5496
2.	Mangalore TPP	1013	4222
3.	Bharat Forge CCGT	50	N.A.*

* This was a State cleared project.

Construction of ROB in Mumbai

3868. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sorted out differences with the Ministry of Railways, the Government of Maharashtra and MMC regarding construction of ROB on Kandivili Railway Station in Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether permission to construct ROB at Kandivili Railway Station has been granted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Government sanction was issued on 19.4.2002 for grant of provisional permission to Western

Railways to carry out excavation and underground concreting on the final alignment of the ROB to be constructed on the Defence land at Kandivili (East) subject to the conditions stipulated in the said sanction letter. Formal orders for transfer of the Defence land in question is, however, pending for want of confirmation from the Mumbai Municipal Corporation to the acceptance of the conditions/decisions taken in various meetings held on the subject.

Revival of BOGL

3869. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any revival package for B.O.G.L.;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the said unit is likely to be closed down; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL) is a sick company and it is under reference before Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(b) and (c) Government has constituted Group of Experts to examine the viability of certain sick PSUs of DHI including BOGL. A Draft Rehabilitation Scheme, prepared by Industrial Development Bank of India, based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee, has been circulated by the BIFR.

(d) and (e) The revival scheme is yet to be finalized by BIFR.

[Translation]

Recruitment in Defence Services

3870. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recruitment in the three wings of Military is comparatively less from the eastern part of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the name of the places in Rajasthan where recruitment centres of the military have been closed along with the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received representations for reopening of the recruitment centres which have been closed;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) In Navy and Air Force recruitment is done on all India merit basis and data is not maintained State/region-wise. In Army, no trend of less recruitment from eastern Rajasthan has been observed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No recruitment offices of the Defence forces have been closed in the recent past. Only the Zonal Recruiting Office of Army was shifted from Ajmer to Jaipur in order to maintain better liaison with the civil authorities, because Jaipur is the State-capital.

(d) and (e) Representation has been received for reopening of the Zonal Recruiting Office at Ajmer after it was shifted to Jaipur.

(f) In the light of (c) above, it is not considered desirable to accept the request.

[English]

Rail Museum

3871. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to reduce the role and funding for Rail Museum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rail Museum is only selecting certain convenient projects in urban areas and ignoring projects outside Delhi; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Rail Museum supposed to react to the requests from public for various activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. ;

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Recruitment Tragedy in Lucknow

3872. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the inquiry report on the death due to stampede occurred during recruitment in army in Lucknow a few months ago;

(b) if so, the conclusions of the report;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the said report ensuring such incidents do not recur in future; and

(d) the details of compensation paid to the next of kin of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The information is being collected.

[English]

Compensation to Persons

3873. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons of Rajouri and Poonch districts (J&K) who have either received or receiving compensation/rent of land(s) from your Ministry;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding undue and illegal compensation or rent paid so far; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) There are 231 cases of requisitioned land and 21 cases of land under hiring in Rajouri District and

254 cases of requisitioned land and 15 cases of land under hiring in Poonch District. The rentals for the requisitioned and hired lands are normally being paid regularly. The rentals for the requisitioned lands are deposited by Defence Estates Officers with concerned Deputy Commissioners, who make the payments to the concerned individuals.

The complaints about payment of rentals are examined on merits as and when received.

Heavy Industries in Rural Areas

3874. SHRI K.K. KALIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the entire rural population are migrating to urban areas to get employment in Industrial cities of our country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to set up heavy industries in rural areas with good financial allocation to stop the migration of rural population;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) A centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), for towns upto 5 lakh population as per 1991 census, was launched during Sixth Five Year Plan. Since the inception of the programme till March 31, 2002 as many 1172 towns have been covered under the scheme from all the States and Union Territories and central assistances amounting to Rs.520.34 crore has been released. As far as setting up of heavy industry is concerned, following the delicensing of the non-strategic sector, the initiative for location of industries rests with the promoter. In so far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present for setting up any new unit in public sector.

Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited

3875. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide Transport Subsidy to Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Dhalgaon in the line of giving tax benefits under the "Tax Holiday provision" to the Industries

located in the North-Eastern States as a measure of strengthening the sustainable growth and development of refinery;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard along with the year wise special fund allocation and release in favour of BRPL during the past three years;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated to set up some viable downstream industries around BRPL by using different by-products produces in BRPL itself as a measure of generating employment for the unemployed youths and augmenting socio-economic development in the most backward and neglected Bodoland Territory in lower Assam;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No such decision has been taken as yet.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) At present Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited is not running its Petrochemical and Polyester Staple Fiber (PSF) units due to high unit cost of production and distribution.

Non Recovery of Shunting Charges

3876. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the losses to the railways administration caused by non-recovery of shunting charges as reported in the CAG's report No.9. 2002;

(b) whether failure of Railway Administration to observe codal provisions regarding levy of shunting charges from New Thermal Power Station siding Chandrapur for conducting unloading operation by the Railway engine at the Merry Go Round inside the siding resulted in loss of Rs. 17.58 crore during June, 1997 to December, 2000;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has, vide para no. 2.1.2 in his Report No.9 of 2002, mentioned about loss of Rs. 17.58 crore towards non-levy of shunting charges at New Thermal Power Station siding at Chandrapur on Central Railway.

(c) and (d) The Report is under examination for taking necessary action as per extant rules.

Oil/Natural Gas Reserve in Saurashtra, Gujarat

3877. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reserves of Oil/Natural Gas have been detected in Saurashtra Kutch region of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to assess the possible locations of Oil/Gas reserves in the said region together with the outcome of the surveys;

(c) the future plans of the Government with regard to conducting such survey in Gujarat; and

(d) the steps taken for further exploration in the said areas to achieve the target of exploration in the field of oil and natural gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Exploratory efforts expended so far in Onland Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat State have not led to any gas and oil reserve. Exploratory inputs expended in this region included 2-D seismic surveys, geological surveys, gravity magnetic surveys, aero-magnetic surveys, deep-seismic investigations, deep-electrical resistivity and magneto-telluric surveys, transient electro-magnetic surveys and drilling of five exploratory wells and one parametric well that, inter-alia, indicate presence of thick sediments below the Deccan trap lavas in many parts of this area.

(c) and (d) In the Onland Saurashtra-Kutch region, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) for two Pre-New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks were signed and

work in these blocks will be carried out as per the provisions of the respective Contracts. As a part of X Plan programme, DGH has also plans to carry out 2-D seismic survey in Kutch Onland area.

Payment of Dividends by Public Sector Undertakings

3878. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether many listed Public Sector Undertakings have paid record dividends to the Government during 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the total amount received by the Government in the form of dividend from the said Public Sector Undertakings during 2001-2002, PSUs-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) As per Public Enterprises Survey 2000-2001, the latest period for which information is available, the total dividend payment by Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) during last three years namely 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are Rs. 4895 crore, Rs. 5437 crore and Rs. 8260 crore respectively showing an increasing trend during the period. The PSU-wise amount of dividend declared are given in statement number 8, volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 2000-01 which was laid in the Parliament on 7.3.2002 and is a published document.

Accident in NTPC's Work Place in A.P.

3879. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether two contract workers died in an accident at NTPC work Place in Karimnagar district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of this accident;

(c) whether that workers were not given adequate safeguards at their work place;

(d) if so, the number of accidents occurred during the last two years; and

(e) the steps taken to enhance the safety measures at all the plants and workers of NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The

main plant package of Ramagundam Stage-III was awarded to M/s. BHEL. The Boiler Erection works are being executed by M/s. L&T, a sub contractor of M/s. BHEL. On 26th June, 2002, an accident occurred in Boiler area at about 11.45 AM while a frame of size 9000 mm X 7000 mm which was pre-assembled on the ground, had been erected and was being placed at the elevation of 33.568 meters. During this process, the frame assembly overturned and fell at 21.468 meters and resulted in fatal injuries to two workers.

Both the workers were wearing Safety Belts and Safety Helmets. However, due to the life line of the Safety Belt of one worker getting severed, he fell on the ground floor. The Safety Belt of the other worker was intact but during falling along with the frame from 33.568 meters to 21.468 meters, he struck the beams and structures.

Two other workers who were also working on the same frame were saved because of using the Safety Belts.

(c) The workers were provided adequate safeguards including Safety Belt, Helmet, Safety Shoes etc., for safe working.

(d) No other such accident has occurred during the last two years.

(e) The following steps have been taken by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to enhance the safety of its plants and workers:

- i. Qualified Safety Officers are working with NTPC, BHEL and their sub agency M/s. L&T.
- ii. A safety Assurance Plan for each area of work has been prepared before commencement of work.
- iii. Based on the job procedures, refresher safety orientation programmes to the working group are conducted to prevent unsafe acts.
- iv. Based on experience and recommendation of enquiries on accidents, safety practice are being continuously upgraded.

Officials Going Abroad for Training

3880. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of technicians and corporate personnel going abroad to cater the needs of the PSUs during each of the last 3 years and till date, PSU-wise;

(b) whether the adequate representation has been provided for OBC to provide training in abroad during each of the last 3 years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, PSU-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The management of the public enterprises depute technicians and other personnel of the PSUs for training abroad at their levels as per needs. They also sponsor executives for training abroad, which are funded by external funding agencies under various aided schemes. Information relating to the total number of personnel going abroad to cater the needs of the PSUs is not centrally maintained.

Bookstalls Agreement

3881. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether from August 1960 to 31st December, 1967 there were no differences in the clauses of all the bookstall agreements including M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co.;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is an monopoly of M/s A. H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s Higginbothams Ltd. over the Bookstalls at Railways Stations;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) steps taken to allot the Bookstall etc. to the unemployed and uneducated youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Separate agreements are entered into by the Railways with the individual bookstall holders including M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. All agreements are therefore different from one another.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Presently more than 60% of the bookstalls over Indian Railways are allotted to other than M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s Higginbothams Ltd.

(e) Bookstalls are allotted to cooperative societies of unemployed graduates comprising actual workers/vendors, partnerships and organisations of unemployed graduates individual unemployed graduates who are sons/wards of Railwaymen, both in service or retired or individual unemployed graduates other than those mentioned above.

*[Translation]***Energy Parks**

3882. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for Energy Park in the Government Engineering College, Jabalpur has been approved; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the grant sanctioned for this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) An Energy Park has been sanctioned for setting up at Government Engineering College, Jabalpur under the Energy Park Scheme. A total grant of Rs.6.27 lakh has been sanctioned for installation of various renewable energy systems/devices such as, solar photovoltaic street lights (4 nos.), solar photovoltaic domestic lights (2 nos.), solar photovoltaic lanterns (2 nos.), solar cookers (2 nos.), a solar photovoltaic colour television, a solar photovoltaic pump, a solar water heating system (500 lpd), a solar still, a solar radio, a biogas plant (cut model) and a wind pump.

Busy Phones of Railways Enquiry

3883. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the telephone numbers 1330 and 1335 giving information regarding train timings and reservations status are engaged for hours;

(b) whether railways and the MTNL are holding each other responsible for the problems being caused to consumers;

(c) whether the problems of the consumers is mounting amidst their allegations and counter allegations; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir. However, during peak hours these numbers may get busy for some time but not for hours.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Full Rake Point

3884. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested for according approval for Full Rake Point in Neemuch, Ratlam and Rewa Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]***Reserves of Petrol in A.P. and Uttaranchal**

3885. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any petrol reserve in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal alongwith the number of pumps installed to pump out petrol in the States;

(b) if so, whether any zones were constituted on exploration work for petrol with joint ventures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and share of such ventures alongwith loss suffered by the Government, if any in the exploration work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As on 1.4.2002, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has established about 57 Million Metric Tonne(MMT) of ultimate reserves of oil and oil equivalent to gas in the State of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 81 (25 oil and 56 gas) wells are on production in the State of Andhra Pradesh as on 1.4.2002. No reserves of hydrocarbons have been established in the State of Uttaranchal either by National Oil Companies (NOCs) or by private/joint venture companies.

(b) and (c) Production Sharing Contracts have been signed for 2 exploration blocks with private/joint venture companies in the State of Andhra Pradesh as per the details given below:

Sl.No.	Block	Consortium	Participating interest
1.	GN-ON-90/3	Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd. (HOEC)	75%
		Mafatlal Industries India Ltd.	25%
2.	KG-ON/1	Tullow India Operations Ltd.	60%
		Reliance Industries Ltd.	40%

No exploration block has been offered in the State of Uttaranchal Pradesh. No loss has been suffered by the Government in Exploration work.

Rural Electrification

3886. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to form rural electrification and energy authorities;

(b) if so, whether they would function under the District Panchayat or Municipal Board supervision;

(c) if so, whether there is any plan to separate rural electrification from commercial supply of electricity and to target rural areas for subsidies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) to (e) One of the issues resolved in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 3rd March, 2001 was that subsidies may be given only to the extent of the State Government's capacity to pay the subsidies explicitly through budget provisions.

Reduction in Licence Fee for FM Radio

3887. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of C&AG Report, the Union Government are examining the reasons for reducing the licence fee for the Frequency Modulation Radio private operators, which causes revenue loss worth Rs. 17.79 crores;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to hand over the case to the CBI;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the results; and

(d) the action taken against those officials held responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The subject matter relates to a decision which was first taken in 1993 and the observations of C&AG are contained in the Report No.2 of 2002 (Civil), which has been received recently. Action as deemed appropriate can be considered only after full examination of the old records and circumstances then obtaining.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion Projects

3888. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received from the State Governments regarding gauge conversion by the Union Government during the last three years, project-wise:

(b) the action taken on each of the proposal;

(c) the details of new/on-going and pending gauge conversion projects in the country, alongwith the present status thereof, project-wise;

(d) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred on each of the project;

(e) whether the funds allocated to gauge conversion projects are being diverted to other purposes:

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the target date fixed for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The targets for completion of projects are being fixed every year as per availability of resources. Gauge conversion of following works is targeted for completion during 2002-2003:

Section	Km
Latur-Latur Road	42
Luni-Samdari-Jasai	196
Vadalur-Vriddhachalam	27
Mangalore-Puttur	40
Dharmabad-Nizamabad	42
Bolarum-Secunderabad	14
Katpadi-Tirupati	104
Rajkot-Jetalsar	77
Surendernagar-Botad-Rajula City Pipavav	250

[English]

Expansion in Capacities by Projects and Refineries

3889. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects for the planned expansion in capacities, both in the greenfield projects and old refineries have been shelved;

(b) if so, whether many pipeline projects have been dropped; and

(c) if so, the details of the projects which have either been dropped or proposed to be shelved and the amount already spent on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) have dropped/deferred the following pipeline expansion projects.

Crude Oil Pipeline

Augmentation of Haldia-Barauni crude pipeline to 11.5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA).

Product Pipeline

- (i) Expansion of Bongaigaon-Siliguri section of Guwahati-Siliguri Pipeline and its extension to Barauni.
- (ii) Expansion of Haldia-Mourigram section of Haldia-Mourigram pipeline.
- (iii) Expansion of Mathura-Delhi section of Mathura-Jalandhar Pipeline to 5.3 MMTPA.
- (iv) Augmentation of Panipat-Bhatinda section of Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline to 2.5 MMTPA.
- (v) Augmentation of Patna-Mugalsarai section of Barauni-Kanpur Pipeline.

As the above mentioned projects were only at conceptual stage, no amount has been spent.

[Translation]

NTPC's Projects

3890. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power stations functioning in the country at present and the number out of them under the Union Government;

(b) the number of thermal power stations out of these causing damage to environment;

(c) the number of letters written to his Ministry by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in this regard during the last two years along with the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken so far by the Government to check the damage being caused to the environment; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) There are 137 thermal power stations in the country having units of more than 20 MW size. Out of these, 29 thermal power stations are in Central Sector.

(b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have

informed that 22 thermal power stations are adversely affecting the environment due to non-compliance of emission limits.

(c) to (e) The pollution control standards stipulated by Ministry of Environment & Forests are regularly monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Board. Both the Ministry of Environment & Forests the Ministry of Power are regularly in touch with each other to ensure that power stations meet pollution control standards. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have also written to Ministry of Power in May, 2002 in this regard. In so far as NTPC power stations are concerned, all the emission and discharges are within the prescribed standards. The CEA have been pursuing with the various power stations authorities to keep the pollution level within the prescribed standards by taking suitable measures such as adjustments of operating parameters and upkeep of pollution control equipments. The 10th Plan Renovation & Modernisation programme formulated by CEA include the upgradation and installation of pollution and environment control equipments.

Recovery of Items

3891. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the value of items recovered by the railways lying in the godowns of the railways;

(b) whether the Railways have developed any fool proof system to inform the concerned person about the recovery of such items/property kept in the RPF/GRP police stations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

"Speed" Petrol

3892. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has launched its new premixed generation fuel "Speed" meant exclusively for niche segment vehicles at some outlets in Mumbai and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of this fuel "Speed";

(d) the extent to which its price is likely to be more than the price of normal unleaded petrol;

(e) whether there is a proposal to launch this fuel in other metro cities of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has launched its new generation fuel "Speed" at some outlets in Mumbai. Currently this fuel is available at 25 Retail Outlets and is being offered to the customers along with normal fuel giving the customer the option to select the fuel of their choice. The launch of this fuel was inaugurated on 09.07.2002 at Mumbai and response of the customers has been extremely favourable.

(c) "Speed" is a high performance fuel that enhances overall engine performance and ensures smoother driving. "Speed" is blended with multi functional additives that clean fuel deposits that impede engine performance. In a new vehicle the fuel injectors, carburetor, fuel intake valves and ports and combustion chamber are free from deposits. However, overtime, carbon deposits tend to accumulate on the above parts thereby reducing the performance of the vehicle. "Speed" helps in restoring the original engine performance by removing these deposits and further preventing the formation of new deposits. The advantages that accrue to the customers include maximum power, better acceleration, improved mileage and reduced emissions levels.

(d) "Speed" has been priced at Rs.1.25 more than the selling price of normal petrol in Mumbai.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. This fuel "Speed" has been launched already in Delhi and is to be launched in select outlets in the other metros viz. Chennai and Kolkata shortly. In addition, "Speed" will be made available at Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad by end September, 2002.

Exploration of On-shore and Off-shore Drilling

3893. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of companies which are actively operating in the petroleum and natural gas sector, specially on-shore and off-shore drilling, refining and pipeline constructions from India and abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The details of major companies and their present activities in the petroleum and natural gas sector are given in the Table below:

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Nature of the company (i.e. PSU/Pvt.)	Present activities
1	2	3	4
1.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.	Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)	Exploration and Production (E&P), Refining, acquisition of exploration acreages and producing proprieties overseas through its subsidiary, ONGC-Videsh Ltd.
2.	Oil India Ltd.	PSU	E&P, and transportation of crude oil to various refineries.
3.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	PSU	Refining and Marketing
4.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	PSU	Refining and Marketing
5.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	PSU	Refining and Marketing
6.	Mangalore Refinery and Petro-Chemicals Ltd.	Joint Venture	Refining
7.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.	PSU	Pipelines, transportation and marketing of gas and production of petro-chemicals.
8.	Reliance Industries Limited	Private	E&P and Refining
9.	Hardy Exploration & Production India Inc.	Private	E&P of hydrocarbons
10.	Niko Resources Ltd.	Private	E&P
11.	Hindustan Oil Exploration Company	Private	E&P
12.	Carin Energy India Pvt. Ltd.	Private	E&P
13.	Essar Oil Ltd.	Private	E&P
14.	Phoenix Overseas Ltd.	Private	E&P
15.	Gujarat State Petroleum Company Ltd.	PSU (State)	E&P
16.	Centurion Energy Limited	Private	E&P
17.	British Gas Exploration & Production India Ltd.	Private	E&P
18.	OAG Gazprom	Private	E&P

1	2	3	4
19.	Joshi Technologies Ltd.	Private	E&P
20.	Mosbacher India LLC	Private	E&P
21.	Geo-Enpro	Private	E&P
22.	Okland International LDC	Private	E&P
23.	Selan Exploration Technologies Ltd.	Private	E&P
24.	Larsen & Toubro	Private	E&P
25.	Interlink Petroleum Ltd.	Private	E&P
26.	M.D. Petrom Oil & Gas Pvt. Ltd.	Private	E&P
27.	Petronet India Ltd.	Private	Laying of petroleum product pipelines.

[Translation]

Import of HSD/MS by IOCL

3894. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited have been permitted to import high speed diesel, light diesel oil and motor spirit only;

(b) if so, the reasons for this monopoly;

(c) whether the Government propose to ensure the private participation in view of changed import policy;

(d) if so, whether the Government have formulated any policy regarding the import of Petroleum products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per the current Exim Policy 2002-2007 effective 1.4.2002, import of Motor Spirit (MS) (all types), Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), High Speed Diesel (HSD), Natural Gas Liquid (NGL), Light Diesel Oil (LDO) etc. are allowed through Indian Oil Corporation Limited as State Trading Enterprise, subject to para 2.11 of Exim Policy.

(b) to (e) The policy regarding the import of petroleum products is covered within the Exim Policy 2002-2007. As per the policy, although, the import of products mentioned in para (a) above are allowed through Indian Oil Corporation Limited

as State Trading Enterprise, the Director General of Foreign Trade may grant a licence/certificate/permission to any other person to import any of these products.

[English]

Ban on Movement of All Kinds of Goods Vehicles by SC

3895. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the Supreme Courts' Order on banning the movement of all goods vehicle in Delhi, which don't meet the Bharat Stage II emission norms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Hon'ble Supreme Court, on 6th December, 2001 in case of M.C. Mehta Vs. UOI and Others, observed as follows:

"It is, therefore, proposed that with effect from 15th January, 2002 no heavy, medium or light goods vehicles will ply on inter-state roads by passing through Delhi or New Delhi. It is only those goods vehicles, which on payment of octroi/toll tax carry goods to or from Delhi, which would be allowed to ply. The Commissioner of Police is directed to formulate a scheme in this behalf and due publicity to all concerned and implement the same."

2002 (1) SCALE., 162.

On 15th July, 2002, Hon'ble Supreme Court further held as under—

"We are informed by the Learned Counsel for the NCT of Delhi that despite the order of this Court in 2001, no vehicles in transit even stopped at the border and all of them are allowed to pass through Delhi. Learned Counsel states that the scheme is prepared which of course, is not disclosed to the Court. How many schemes prepared by the Department will precede an order of this Court is difficult to comprehend. If the said scheme permits any truck in transit to pass through Delhi, the Police Commissioner to show cause why the compliance of this Court's order dated 6th December, 2001 has not been effected and the NCT of Delhi and the Police Commissioner are directed to show cause for the plying of all heavy vehicles through Delhi which do not comply with category - II norms should not be stopped especially when no effective steps have been taken by the respondents to comply with the order of this Court of December, 2001."

Review of Advocate Act

3896. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission of India has undertaken a study to review the Advocate Act., 1961;

(b) whether the study, inter-alia includes entry of foreign legal consultants and liberalization of legal practice and management; and

(c) if so, whether this will have an adverse reflection on the legal profession and management of law firms in India?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) The 15th Law Commission has undertaken the study to review the Advocates Act. 1961. A Working Paper on the subject was prepared and circulated to various concerns during 1999. The study of this subject in the Working Paper included the entry of foreign legal consultants and liberalization of legal practice and management, etc. However, the present 16th Commission is finalising the report on some of the issues taken up in the said Working Paper other than on the issue of entry of foreign legal consultants and liberalization of legal practice and management;

(c) Since the Law Commission has intimated that it is not likely to give its report on the issues concerning entry of foreign legal consultants and liberalization of legal practice and management, question of the apprehension does not arise.

[Translation]

New Law Colleges

3897. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the rules and regulations laid down for opening and recognition of new colleges for law education;

(b) the number of colleges given recognition during the last three years; and

(c) the funds allocated for opening of new law colleges in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) The Bar Council of India has informed that all details for opening of and approval of affiliation of new law colleges are contained in Part IV of the Bar Council of India Rules.

(b) The Bar Council of India has given approval of affiliation to 71 new law colleges during the period from January, 1999 to June, 2002.

(c) Ministry of Law and Justice has no scheme to allocate funds for opening of new law colleges in the country.

[English]

Wasteful Expenditure in Government Departments

3898. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry are aware that Ministry of Finance have taken steps to minimise wasteful expenditure in Government Departments and have already identified that there are certain sectors in which Wasteful expenditure is maximum in various Government Department;

(b) if so, details of such sectors of his Ministry/ Department under him, which have been identified by that Ministry for the purpose and quantum of wasteful expenditure identified therein during each of the last three years as on December 31, 2001; and

(c) the steps taken so far by his Ministry to curtail/ stop such wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No sector specific to the Ministry of Law and Justice, has been identified by the Ministry of Finance for the

purpose. No wasteful expenditure has been noticed during the last three years.

(c) All the austerity instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time are being duly followed.

Setting up of National Judicial Commission

3899. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a National Judicial Commission for appointing Judges and drawing up a code of ethics as reported in the Hindustan Times dated July 24, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Chief Justice of India and some renowned jurists have opposed the Government's move for setting up of Judicial Panel;

(d) if so, the reasons given by them for opposing such a move;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the further steps taken by the Government in regard to setting up of the Judicial Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) to (f) The Government is committed to setting up of a National Judicial Commission, which would make recommendations for appointment of Judges/Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the High Courts as also draw up a Code of Ethics for Judges.

As part of the process of building up the national consensus to set up the National Judicial Commission, Political parties are being requested to communicate their views in this regard. The setting up of the Commission would involve amendment to the Constitution of India.

The attention of the Government has been drawn to a report in a section of the Press that the Chief Justice of India does not reportedly see any need for a National Judicial Commission as, in his view, the present system of Collegium has worked well.

Stayorders on Government Notification/Order

3900. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of Stay orders by the Courts on Government Notification/Order to bestow undue benefits on individuals of cartels is a highly vulnerable area and despite the guidelines issued to the High Courts by the Supreme Court of India to desist from the issue of such Stay orders Calcutta High Court has issue stay order on the implementation of Notification issued by the Director General of Foreign Trade encroaching on the jurisdiction of the Anti-Dumping Directorate and CEGAT as reported in the Business Standard dated 19.05.1999 and 19.12.2001; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ensure that the appeals by the Government against such stay orders are disposed by the Courts on priority basis as even the interim stay orders drag on for years bestowing huge unjustified benefits and distorting Government policies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) The issuance of stay orders by courts relates to the substantive functions of courts. Even the hearing of appeals against such stay orders falls within the ambit of substantive functions of courts and the government has no role in this. Government can and do avail of judicial processes in courts and pursue matters to expedite disposal of cases in accordance with the law, including challenging any stay granted by any subordinate court.

Adverse Affect on Tourism Industry due to Media

3901. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to negative role played by international media after thirteen December attack on Indian Parliament, and possibilities of Indo-Pak war, our tourism industry had been affected badly;

(b) if so, the role played by the national media; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Guideline for Sitting Supreme Court and High Court Judges

3902. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently Supreme Court has framed a set of broad guidelines for sitting Supreme Court and High Court Judges to discourage them from heading Inquiry Commission;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has said that at the time of appointment of a sitting judge as a Commission of inquiry has to be made only on rare occasions if it becomes necessary for the paramount national interest of the country; and

(c) if so, the details of guidelines issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) The Supreme Court has formulated some broad guidelines for appointment of a sitting Judge of High Court only to a Commission in their Judgement dated the 12th July, 2002 in T. Fenn Walter & others Vs Union of India & others.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

As per the guidelines, appointment of a sitting Judge of a High Court is not objectionable as a Commission of inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act or to a judicial office which has to be filled up by a sitting Judge to fulfil the requirement of law or where the expertise & experience of a sitting Judge is required like a Member of the Finance Commission or Law Commission. The sitting Judges can be appointed as Inquiry Commission if the inquiry itself can be conducted without prejudice to other judicial work as a Judge of the superior Court. The appointment should not compromise the dignity of the office of the sitting Judge and should preserve the independence of judiciary. The appointment of a sitting Judge as a Commission of Inquiry has to be made only on rare occasions if it becomes necessary for the paramount national interest of the country.

Amount Invested by Govt. for the Palace on Wheels Train

3903. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Palace on Wheel Train service has been introduced in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount invested by the Government for the Palace on Wheels train service in Karnataka; and

(c) the amount spent by the Railways on its infrastructures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

LNG Terminal at Cochin

3904. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of proposed LNG Terminal at Cochin being set up by Petronet;

(b) whether there are any proposal to transport LNG from Cochin to Mangalore;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there are any move to ignore supply of LNG to Kayamkulam Terminal Power Station; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) All pre-project activities of Cochin LNG Terminal project have been completed.

(b) and (c) With the coming up of Cochin LNG Terminal, GAIL, has considered setting up of gas transmission network based on the demand of various consumers in the State of Kerala and Karnataka. GAIL is in the process of finalizing the Gas Transmission Network from Kochi Terminal to Mangalore/Bangalore and the Kayamkulam depending on tie up with consumers in the region.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Generation of Power from Municipal Waste

3905. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Timarpur Power Plant based on Municipal solid waste was purchased after ascertaining the feasibility and closed in 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether utilities of this plant were known to

MNCs and MCD before it was decided to purchase this Power plant from Danish Firm and feasibility studies carried out before placing the order; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Refuse Incineration Plant at Timarpur was closed in the year 1990 after unsuccessful trial runs, as the Municipal Solid Waste provided by Municipal Corporation of Delhi was not of adequate calorific value as required for its operation for generation of power.

(c) and (d) The plant was set up for incineration of 300 tonnes per day of Municipal Solid Waste for generation of 3.75 MW power. The project was considered feasible on the basis of; suggestions of a task force set up in 1981 by the Commission for Additional Sources of Energy under the Department of Science and Technology for utilising municipal solid waste of Delhi for production of energy; confirmation about plant supplier's record of having installed a large number of such plants in the World received through Indian Embassy in Denmark; information about waste characteristics obtained from Municipal Corporation of Delhi; study carried out by Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi regarding waste characteristics, besides a study carried out by Danish specialists.

Financial Assistance to Manipur by REC Funding

3906. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of representations received from suppliers regarding non-releasing of pending payments against supply of energy meters by Electricity Department, Government of Manipur and the amount of balance payments are yet to be released by the State Government against REC funding;

(b) the details of assistance provided to the State Government of Manipur by REC and the payment released to the suppliers so far and the details of pending payment; and

(c) the time by when the balance payments to suppliers are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Ministry of Power have received representations from a supplier viz. M/s Capital Power Systems Ltd., regarding non-release of pending payments against the supply of energy meters to the Electricity Department, Government of Manipur.

(b) and (c) During 1999-2000, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) had sanctioned a loan assistance of Rs.5.16 crores to Electricity Department, Government of Manipur for purchase of energy meters and, on the basis of invoices, a sum of Rs.4.40 crores was released by REC. It has been informed by the Government of Manipur that they have disbursed the following payments to the firms:

(i)	M/s. Capital Power Systems Ltd.	Rs.183. 00 lakhs
(ii)	M/s. Elymer Electrics	Rs.145.00 lakhs
(iii)	Installation of Energy meter	Rs. 54.368 lakhs
Total		Rs.382.368 lakhs

The delay in releasing the balance payment to the suppliers is due to financial crunch faced by the State Government.

Import of LNG

3907. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item "India exploring ways to import LNG" appeared in the Hindu dated July 26, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Government have negotiated with a number of countries to import LNG;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the present status of the import of LNG through pipelines or by other ways from foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is in Open General License (OGL) list and there are number of initiatives to import LNG by public as well as private companies, both on the West and East coast.

An agreement for supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) was signed between RasGas of Qatar and Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) in July, 1999. The agreement is for supply of 7.5 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) of LNG, 5 MMTPA for Dahej and 2.5 MMTPA for Cochin Terminal.

The mechanical completion of the Dahej terminal project is scheduled for December, 2003.

Raising of Funds by NTPC

3908. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is going to issue fresh equity to the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be issued; and

(c) the target of new generation capacity to be added with this new equity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has decided to explore the possibility of entering capital market with a public issue of equity.

Exploration of Oil and Gas Deposits in North Eastern States

3909. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures adopted for exploration of oil and gas deposits in North-Eastern States and West Bengal;

(b) the areas appear to be positive in those States for availability of gas and oil; and

(c) the measures Government are considering to make use of abandoned gas reserves in Tripura for commercial exploitation through long term plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) North-Eastern States mainly fall in the Sedimentary basins of Upper-Assam and Assam-Arakan fold belt whereas West Bengal falls in the Bengal basin. Based on the geological information, the basins of Upper-Assam and Assam-Arakan fold belt have been placed under Category-I and Bengal basin under Category-III, indicating their relative degree of prospectively. During IX Plan period National Oil Companies (NOCs) have carried out 6,203 Ground Line Kilometers (GLK) of 2-D, 12,614 GLK and 673 Square Kilometer of 3-D seismic data and drilled 160 exploratory wells in the North-Eastern States and in the State of West Bengal. In addition to the exploratory efforts by NOCs,

Government has offered 21 exploration blocks in the North-Eastern States and 11 blocks in West Bengal so far, which include 4 exploration blocks in North-Eastern States and 1 exploration block in West Bengal on offer under on-going third round of New Exploration Licensing Policy. Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 4 blocks in North-Eastern States and 1 block in West Bengal.

(c) The present utilisation of natural gas by various consumers in Tripura is about 1.2 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) against 2.0 MMSCMD of gas that could be produced as per the present surface handling capacity of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in the State. The envisaged long term gas production potential from the fields of Tripura is 4 MMSCMD. At present, four gas based projects which are using gas in Tripura. Natural gas has also been allocated in favour of four power projects and one fertilizer project.

Kargil Amnesia

3910. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Wraps off Government Kargil Amnesia" appearing in the Telegraph (Guwahati edition) dated the July 11, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the stages at which the fulfilment of all the promises made to the widow of the Kargil Heroes stand, as on date; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Wraps of Government Kargil Amnesia" appeared in the Telegraph (Guwahati edition) dated 11th July 2002. The news item primarily refers to following problems being faced by the widows/dependents of the Kargil casualties:

- (i) Construction of road and availability of electric supply in the Village of Kargil widow;
- (ii) Provision of vocational training to a Kargil widow;
- (iii) Non-availability of electricity connection for the gas agency allotted to a Kargil widow.

The above issues are general in nature and are within

the administrative jurisdiction of the respective State Government and/or local authorities. The Central Government do not have any information about the pronouncements made by the concerned State Governments/local authorities and about their implementation.

[Translation]

Barauni Refinery

3911. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the production capacity of Barauni refinery and since when this refinery has not been able to fully utilize its production capacity;

(b) the loss suffered by this refinery due to less utilization of its production capacity during the last three years alongwith the steps taken to curtail this loss;

(c) the date on which the extension projects of the above refinery was to be completed and the present position thereof together with effects of the time-over-run on the project;

(d) the agencies to whom various jobs in regard to extension project of the refinery were assigned and the agencies or parties out of them which have shelved the work and withdrew themselves;

(e) whether the Government are taking any action against the persons responsible for the irregularities committed in the extension project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The refining capacity of Barauni refinery was enhanced from 3.3 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) to 4.2 MMTPA from 1-1-2001. The capacity utilization of the refinery from 1981-82 to 2001-02 is given in enclosed statement.

(b) Barauni refinery has suffered loss during 2000-01 and 2001-02 primarily on account of higher input cost i.e. cost of crude oil.

To reduce losses, actions have been taken by Barauni refinery to maximise value added products namely High Speed Diesel, Liquefied Petroleum Gas, reduction in fuel and loss etc.

(c) The capacity expansion project of Barauni refinery from 4.2 MMTPA to 6 MMTPA was to be mechanically completed by February, 2002. All the contracts except one package being executed by Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels (BHPV) were mechanically completed on schedule. The project is expected to be fully mechanically completed by September, 2002.

(d) The project is being executed through 4 Lumpsum Turn Key contracts, which are as under:

	Job Scope	Contractor
1	Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit, Gasoline & Liquefied Petroleum Gas Treating	M/s. Samsung Engineering Company Limited, Korea
2	Diesel Hydro Desulphurisation Treating Unit	M/s. Samsung Engineering Company Limited, Korea
3	Sulphur Recovery Unit, Amine Regeneration Unit, Sour Water Stripper Unit	M/s. Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels
4	Hydrogen Generation Unit, Offsites and Utilities	M/s. Larsen and Tourbo

No agency or party out of them have shelved the work and withdrawn from the project.

(e) and (f) No irregularity has been found to have been committed by any officer of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. in the expansion project. Hence the question of taking action does not arise.

Statement

Year	Installed Capacity, MMTPA	Crude processing, MMTPA	% capacity utilisation
1	2	3	3
1981-82	3.300	3.030	91.8

1	2	3	3
1982-83	3.300	3.071	93.1
1983-84	3.300	2.907	88.1
1984-85	3.300	2.896	87.8
1985-86	3.300	2.765	83.8
1986-87	3.300	2.860	86.7
1987-88	3.300	2.638	79.9
1988-89	3.300	2.815	85.3
1989-90	3.300	2.964	89.8
1990-91	3.300	2.416	73.2
1991-92	3.300	2.262	68.5
1992-93	3.300	2.287	69.3
1993-94	3.300	2.222	67.3
1994-95	3.300	2.220	67.3
1995-96	3.300	2.322	70.4
1996-97	3.300	1.895	57.4
1997-98	3.300	2.181	66.1
1998-99	3.300	2.204	66.8
1999-00	3.300	3.411	103.4
2000-01	3.520	3.122	88.7
2001-02	4.200	2.876	68.5

Ban on Child Marriage

3912. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ban on child marriage is necessary to check alarming rate of population growth in the country;

(b) whether the All Muslim Personal Board has opposed the law relating to restraint of child marriage;

(c) whether opposition of law relating to restraint of child marriage by All India Muslim Personal Board representing a very large population of Muslims on the country on the pretext that it is against their religion/community is not an impediment in its successful implementation; and

(d) if so, the appropriate measures likely to be taken by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) In the Statement of Objects and Reasons of Act No.2 of 1978, which amended the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 by raising the age of marriage for males and females, the growth of population in the country was mentioned as one of the reasons.

(b) and (c) No representation has been received from the All India Muslim Personal Law Board in respect of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

(d) In view of answer to (b) and (c) above, the question does not arise.

11.07 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION NO. 1

[English]

Collapse of Western Grid

1. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States plunged into darkness on the night of 30-31 July, 2002 following the collapse of the Western Grid;

(b) if so, the factors responsible thereof;

(c) whether the essential services in those States have been affected due to collapse of Western Grid;

(d) if so, the losses suffered as a result thereof and the time taken by the Government to restore power supply in the affected States; and

(e) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir. A grid disturbance occurred in Western Regional Grid at 20.11 hrs. on 30th July, 2002 disrupting power supply in the States of Maharashtra, M.P., Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and part of Goa. However, Mumbai city survived with islanding of Tata/ BSES Systems.

(b) The demand in the Western Region had gone up due to inadequate rains and the regional requirement has been about 20% higher as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The availability of power also reduced due to low reservoir levels and consequent reduction in hydel generation. The situation further worsened due to outages of thermal units. Thus the grid was operating in highly critical stage before the occurrence of the grid disturbance. Even prior to the system collapse, the Western Region grid had been operating at low frequency throughout the month of July, 2002. In spite of repeated advice by the Western Region Load Despatch Centre, not to overdraw, various constituent States had been overdrawing from the Grid, as a result of which, the frequency was below the critical level of 48.0 Hz, quite often, against the minimum operating frequency level of 49.0 Hz as agreed by the Western Regional Electricity Board and as also stipulated in Indian Electricity Grid Code.

(c) Yes, Sir. The power supply to essential services was affected where no standby arrangement was available.

(d) After the grid collapse, restoration work was immediately initiated and auxiliary power supply was extended from Northern Region via Vindhyachal HVDC bypass link to NTPC's Korba STPS over 400 KV Korba - Vindhyachal Circuit. Start up power was also extended to Chandrapur (MSEB) from Southern Region. Western Region Grid was integrated at 10.52 hrs. on 31.7.2002 except for Eastern part island of Maharashtra which was operating in synchronism with Southern Region. The entire grid was normalized by the evening hours of 31.07.2002.

(e) Central Electricity Authority has constituted a four member committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.K. Narayan, Ex-CMD, Power Grid to enquire and analyse the causes leading to grid disturbance on 30-7-2002, to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future and review restoration of system including startup power. The Committee has been asked to submit its report on

or before 10th August, 2002.

Secretary, Ministry of Power has also held a meeting of the constituents of the Western Region on 3rd August, 2002 to address steps to be taken to prevent such incidents from occurring. In the meeting it was unanimously agreed that:

(a) States would undertake load management through restoring etc. so as to maintain grid at 50.0 Hz. In case load shedding has to be resorted to, this would be well publicized and the public would be taken into confidence. To achieve this a well thought out publicity campaign would be taken up.

(b) The Availability Based Tariff regime would be implemented.

(c) In case frequency dips below 49.0 Hz., the RLDC must identify the overdrawing SEB(s) and is authorized to cut supply to that SEB(s).

(d) In case the frequency dips below 48.5 Hz., the RLDC is authorized to take all steps as deemed fit to save the grid (and bring back the grid to 49.0 Hz.) including cutting loads to even States that were not overdrawing.

(e) As a disincentive to States that do not follow grid discipline, it was decided that the share of unallocated power from Central Generating Stations would be reduced/ withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 9th August, 2002 at 11 a.m.

11.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, August 9, 2002/Sravana 18, 1924 (Saka).

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